

### Photo contest underway

The *Leader* is seeking 2018 vacation photos for possible publication. A first- and second-place prize of Schlitterbahn tickets will be awarded for June, July and August to the best submissions. Monthly first-place winner will be awarded eight tickets, while each month's second-place winner will be awarded six.

All submissions should include where and when the photo was taken, as well as identify each person in the picture and tell the story about the trip. All photos must be high resolution. Email photos to mynews@southbeltleader.com. Do not compress photos when emailing.

### Bombshells to reopen

Bombshells, located on the Gulf Freeway near Fuqua, will again be allowed to sell alcohol, provided they adopt certain safety measures, such as digitally monitoring the amount of drinks each patron consumes and having at least two police officers on site. The agreement comes after the establishment was recently issued a temporary restraining order, prohibiting the sale of alcohol, following multiple alcohol-related crimes. Officials from Bombshells said the bar is expected to reopen Friday, June 22, at 11 a.m.

### Knights host barbecue

The Knights of Columbus of St. Luke's Church will host a chopped barbecue brisket sandwich sale Saturday and Sunday, June 23 and 24, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the west end of the church parking lot on Hall Road. Each meal includes a sandwich, chips and a drink for \$7. Proceeds benefit the Knights of Columbus community charities, all are invited.

### St. Luke's holds garage sale

St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church will hold a garage sale Saturday, June 30, at 11011 Hall Road from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Available items include gently used children's clothing, toys and stuffed animals; boutique items, such as jewelry, scarves, hats, belts and purses; and household items, knickknacks and artwork. For more information, call Jessica Rowland at 281-475-6261 or the parish office at 281-481-6816.

### Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96/League City Parkway will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Monday, Dec. 31. Alternate entrance and exit ramps will be closed.

### Beltway closures planned

Both eastbound and westbound U-turn lanes at Beltway 8 and Beamer Road will be closed continuously through 9 p.m. Saturday, June 30.

### Beverly Hills to meet

The Beverly Hills Civic Club will hold a meeting Thursday, June 28, at the Beverly Hills Community Center, located at 10201 Kingspoint, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

### Prayer walk set for June 23

School Prayer Walks USA will host a prayer walk on Saturday, June 23, beginning at 9 a.m. at Beverly Hills Intermediate, located at 11111 Beamer. The walk has been organized to pray for the protection of students and staff at schools in the South Belt community. For more information, call 281-484-0901.

### Dolphins hold registration

The Southbelt Dolphins will hold registration on Saturday, June 30, at the Sagemont Community Center, located at 11507 Hughes Road near Beltway 8, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### Christian concert at Dobie

Jonathan Spears, director of Missions of Mercy, will present a free Christian concert called *Truth in the Fire II* on Saturday, June 30, at the Dobie High School auditorium beginning at 6:30 p.m. Performers and speakers include Roelant, DJ Overcomer, Jeremy Rosas, Von Won, Mike Rosas and more. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 832-647-9973.

# County approves \$2.5 billion bond election

Harris County Commissioners Court unanimously adopted a bond order for a \$2.5 billion flood bond election scheduled for Aug. 25 – the one year anniversary of Hurricane Harvey's landfall in Houston.

The goals of the bond election are to assist with recovery after previous flooding events and to make the county more resilient for the future.

Precinct 1 Commissioner Rodney Ellis applauded the unanimous decision.

"Today we demonstrated our commitment to making flood control a top priority across the county," Ellis said. "We are taking positive steps

toward ensuring that every community in our region is able to fully recover from Hurricane Harvey and be more resilient to future storms."

Harris County officials also confirmed in court that flood bond funds can be used alongside other funding streams to provide meaningful relocation assistance for families in flood-prone areas.

The Harris County Flood Control District has also released a list of potential bond projects in economically disadvantaged communities, where there is a substantial need for flood damage reduction work and a potential to serve the greatest number of residents. Passage of the

bond will provide the opportunity to accelerate the delivery of projects. It will also leave the county better positioned to leverage local funding to take advantage of federal funding opportunities.

Harvey's devastating floods further exposed critical weaknesses in flood mitigation infrastructure caused by federal benefit cost/ratio requirements that unfairly weighted property values over other factors like population density and

risks to safety, leaving lower-income communities especially vulnerable to chronic flooding. A report released earlier this year by the Greater Houston Flood Mitigation Consortium underscored the need for equitable funding to protect all vulnerable communities, a concern also shared by Ellis.

Prior to the final passage of the bond order, Ellis introduced an equity amendment that passed

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## Homeless camp irks residents



A homeless encampment located behind the Walgreens on Fuqua at Sabo has drawn the ire of many residents, who view it as an eyesore and a potential site for crime. While city officials say their hands are largely tied due to regulations and ongoing litigation, Houston Police Officer Richard Buitron, who leads the department's local Positive Interaction Program, told the *Leader* efforts are being made to clear the location. Similar steps have recently been taken to also clear homeless encampments at the Gulf Freeway at Edgemoor. Photo by Marie Flickinger

## Home invasion suspect arrested

One of the four suspects wanted for the home invasion that took place in the 10700 block of Sagewillow on June 8 has been apprehended, according to the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office.

Following the incident, in which four males – at least three of whom were armed – kicked in the door of the residence, surveillance footage was distributed to other area law enforcement agencies in hopes of identifying the suspects.

An officer from the Cypress-Fairbanks ISD Police Department recognized the lone unmasked suspect in the video as being a student involved in other crimes. The suspect was identified as 17-year-old Jersey Village resident Jordan

Landaverde, and Precinct 2 deputies subsequently filed a warrant for his arrest on a charge of felony burglary of a habitation.

On June 18, deputies from the Harris County Precinct 4 Constable's office responded to another home invasion call in the Spring area and were able to apprehend Landaverde.

In this case, Landaverde was charged with misdemeanor criminal mischief. He was also taken into custody for the felony Precinct 2 warrant.

The investigation is ongoing, and Precinct 2 deputies hope Landaverde's arrest will help identify the remaining three suspects in the Sagewillow case.

## Shots fired during police chase

Houston police are investigating an incident in which an HPD officer discharged his weapon at three robbery suspects in the 11000 block of Sabo Road around 9:30 a.m. Monday June 18.

According to police, officers from the HPD Clear Lake Patrol Division responded to a call from a citizen following a suspect who was driving a vehicle reportedly stolen on Saturday, June 16. As Senior Police Officer B. Kohlhafer arrived at the intersection of Sabo and Fuqua, he saw the vehicle at a nearby gas station. As Kohlhafer gave the suspect verbal commands to exit the vehicle, the suspect instead accelerated in reverse down Fuqua and Sabo and backed into a driveway at 11000 Sabo.

Using his patrol vehicle, Officer Kohlhafer blocked the suspect to prevent him from fleeing the scene. The suspect then accelerated toward the officer. Fearing for his life, Kohlhafer discharged his duty weapon and struck the sus-

pect vehicle's tires. The suspect vehicle fled the scene, striking Kohlhafer's patrol vehicle and other citizens' vehicles.

Officers then initiated a vehicle pursuit and the suspect vehicle came to a stop in the 5300 block of South Shaver, where three suspects were taken into custody. The driver of the stolen vehicle, Victor Perez, 37, of Pasadena, was charged with felony evading in a motor vehicle and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle in the 209th State District Court.

No one was injured during the incident.

As is customary in incidents where an HPD officer discharges his duty weapon in the city limits, this case is being investigated by the HPD Homicide Division Special Investigations Unit and the Internal Affairs Division.

Kohlhafer was sworn in as an officer in June 1990.

## County receives more buyout funds

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has awarded more than \$51 million to the Harris County Flood Control District for the acquisition of 294 flood-prone homes damaged by Hurricane Harvey.

Once the structures are removed, the land will be dedicated and maintained as open space to conserve natural floodplain functions.

Previously, the Harris County Flood Control District was awarded more than \$25 million to acquire and remove 169 residential structures. These awards are part of a larger project to acquire and remove 985 flood-prone properties in Harris County. The overall proposed federal share is \$163 million.

The acquisition and removal of properties is a part of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). The program requires a 25 percent match from the county. The total cost of the project is \$217 million.

FEMA has a long-term commitment to help Texas and its communities recover from Hurricane Harvey and to become more resilient.

HMGP provides funds to implement hazard mitigation measures following a presidentially

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## C&D Burger Shop now open 24 hours

C&D Burger Shop #1, located at 10606 Fuqua, is now open 24 hours on Fridays and Saturdays.

The new hours began on Friday, June 15, and is limited to the drive-thru lane only.

Opened in 1981, C&D Burger Shop has long been a staple of the South Belt community.

## Dobie graduate found shot to death

A former South Belt resident was found shot to death around 1:20 p.m. Friday, June 15, in the 300 block of Embry, located just north of downtown.

The body of Scott Hardin, 42, was discovered in a grassy field near a bayou by a truck driver who was traveling north on Interstate 45. He had been shot multiple times. Hardin, a 1994 Dobie graduate, was pronounced dead at the scene.

A news report from ABC Channel 13 stated that Hardin's vehicle had been found burned two days earlier near the intersection of Interstate 45 and Parker (approximately 6 miles from where

his body was discovered), but a spokesman from the Houston Police Department was unable to confirm this, as it is an ongoing investigation.

Hardin leaves behind two daughters.

A memorial celebration for Hardin will be held Sunday, June 24, at Sud Italia Ristorante, located at 2347 University Blvd., from noon to 4 p.m. Donations will be accepted at the door, and all proceeds will go to a fund in his name.

Anyone with information on this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

## Fourth of July parade approaches

The annual South Belt Fourth of July parade is fast approaching, set to take place Wednesday, July 4, beginning at 10 a.m. at Beverly Hills Intermediate, located at 11111 Beamer Road.

Now in its 31st year, this year's event will be a salute to the heroes of Hurricane Harvey.

The parade will be led by a vehicle honoring the Pasadena Independent School District. PISD

Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell will serve as grand marshal of the event. Powell is being recognized for all the hard work she did both during and after the hurricane, including the opening of the doors at Dobie High School so it could be used as a temporary shelter for those in need.

Event organizers are also accepting nomina

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## Nominations sought for local heroes

Nominations are currently being accepted for local Hurricane Harvey heroes to be recognized at both the upcoming Fourth of July parade (see related story on this page) and the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet, set to take place Thursday, July 19, at the Lone Star Flight Museum located at Ellington Airport.

"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members," the chamber posted on its Facebook page, quoting Coretta Scott King. "In the minutes, hours, days, weeks and months following Hurricane Harvey, Coretta Scott King's words have never been truer. In the blink of an eye, normal people were transformed into heroes.

These heroes manned boats, canoes or jet skis provided food, brought water, mucked houses, pushed cars, donated supplies, babysat kids, provided shelter, clothing, furniture, medicine, diapers ... the list is endless."

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott has agreed to attend the banquet and join the chamber in honoring local heroes from the historic storm.

While it would be impossible to recognize everyone's efforts, organizers hope to select a group of honorees that it feels is representative of the entire South Belt community's response to Harvey.

A small sampling of these heroes will be officially recognized at the banquet, and the remain-

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## "Little Jacob" arrest has local ties

A woman with ties to the South Belt community has been charged in connection with the highly publicized case involving a young boy – dubbed "Little Jacob" by the FBI and local me-

dia – who was found dead in Galveston in October 2017.

The boy, now identified as 4-year-old Jayden

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## CCISD announces new leadership

The Clear Creek Independent School District has announced new leadership changes that will go into effect for the 2018-2019 school year.

Dr. Karen Engle, current principal of Clear Lake High School and former Clear Falls High School principal, has been named the assistant superintendent of Secondary Education. Engle will take over this role from Scott Bockart, who announced his retirement several weeks ago after

serving sixteen years in CCISD.

David Drake, current associate principal of Clear Creek High School, was announced as the new principal of Clear Lake High School at the April CCISD Board of Trustees meeting.

Michael Houston, current principal of Clear View High School, was announced as the new principal of Clear Springs High School. Gail

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## Construction begins on Sageglen



Work recently began to make drainage and pavement improvements on Sageglen from Sagedowne to Hughes Road, requiring the closure of roughly half of the area thoroughfare. The construction is the fourth phase of a seven-phase city project to make repairs throughout the Sagemont subdivision. Work on the street is expected to be complete in August. Photo by Marie Flickinger

# In My Opinion

## Laura Garza submits name for recognition

My brother Jorge Gonzalez with his "Tonka Truck" helped several individuals the night of the flood including several family members, friends, strangers, myself and my three children. He and my sister-in-law Brittney housed 6 different families for 2-3 days while the waters receded. He also continued to help the next day with his boat until he ended up wrecking it by hitting a fire hydrant that was not visible. It would be awesome for him to be recognized if at all possible.

Laura Garza

## Bernal nominates Sebastian for efforts

I would like to commend Sebastian Guevara. He is an incoming Senior at Dobie High School. Sebastian went around to surrounding homes in his neighborhood to offer his help to clean-up. He worked every day and night without thought and he did it whole-heartily. Always a smile on his face, offering comfort and care to those in need. Sebastian is definitely an inspiration to those who know him. We need more young adults like him to help make positive change in our beautiful community.

Maria Bernal

## Guerra has multiple Harvey nominations

Hello. My name is Alma Guerra and my family and I have lived in the area for 18 years. We were victims of Hurricane Harvey. We were evacuated from our home (10807 Sagecrest Lane), around 11ish that night and taken to Dobie High school. A big thank you to Marie from *South Belt Leader* for organizing everything and getting us blankets, water and all the necessities we needed. I would also like to include the principle at Frazier Elementary, Wendy Wiseburn. She set up a clothing shop and a pantry for all those needing cloth, food, diapers and so much more. Not only did she do this for our South Belt area but for all those needing help, she even helped out people in Baytown. The counselor at Frazier, Susan Blue, also did an amazing job helping us with so much. Thank you.

Alma M Guerra

**Publisher's note:** We will gladly add the names in the previous three letters to the "wall" the South Belt-Ellington Chamber is doing. We will have one version of the wall at the annual parade and another at the annual chamber dinner. All South Belt residents are urged to send in names and information about those who helped with the rescue and recovery of Harvey. The *Leader* will be publishing various reports from our readers (starting with the letter above). Names can be sent in to either the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce or the *South Belt-Ellington Leader*. Don't wait, get those names to us ASAP.

Marie Flickinger

## Jackson says world, times changing

We would all like think of ourselves as patriotic freedom loving defenders of our great democracy. We want to believe that those who agree with us also share the same morals and ethics, hopes and dreams. That they, too, love our country, worship our God, remember our forefathers and understand our history just the same as we do. That they, too, want the best education for their children in the safest environments possible. And that they, too, want "America Great Again."

But just what --when-- was this "Great Again" time they have in mind? Was it during the Great War of 1917 -18? Maybe the 1920s of prohibition, gangsters and "anything goes" morals? Or the 1930s during the Great Depression? Maybe it was the early '40s and WWII with it's KIAs, POWs, and, among other things, rationing, and wage and price controls? Or perhaps the post war years: the '50s and '60s with the threat of polio, nuclear annihilation, and personal taxes for the top bracket over 90%? And no A/C!! Maybe it was the later 1960s with civil discord, assassinations and the Vietnam War vs the Peace Movement dividing us? Then there was Watergate, LSD, sexual liberation, long gas lines, hyper inflation and historically high interest rates. For some of us it might be the Reagan era when "voodoo" economics increased the national debt up to 50% of GDP. Yeah, those were the good old days when we could "tune in, turn on, drop out" and "do our own thing."

Yes, of course each of these decades had their high points and good times and, for the most part, it's those good times we choose to remember: Babe Ruth, Benny Goodman, Marilyn, Elvis, drive-ins, cruisin' down Main Street while dad worked and mom cooked, everyone dressed up on Sundays and all was right with the world. Yeah, those were the good old days when everybody we knew was the same as us.

So maybe, just maybe, we could all stop for a minute, step back, take a deep breath, and realize that the world and the times have always been a-changin' and I believe we're a better nation -- and people -- because we've changed with them. It's said "Nostalgia ain't what it used to be." But then again... perhaps it never was.

Ed Jackson

## Flood ordinance will be severe, King says

Recently the City of Houston and the Harris County Flood Control District added new flood mapping tools to their websites. The City's tool estimates the difference between the ground elevation and the 500-year flood plain. The map is color coded for incremental differences up to five feet. The minimum elevation for any structure in a 500-year flood would be the difference shown on the map plus two feet. So, for example, in the areas in purple (>5), any structure would have to be, at least, seven feet off the ground. For map, visit <http://www.gims.floodcontroltx.gov/Floodplain/WAB/>.

The Flood Control District's tool estimates the areas that were inundated during Harvey and the Tax Day flood in 2016. For map, visit <https://www.har-riscountyfw.org>. Note that you must click the "Inundation Map" box and then drop down to the "Historical" tab and enter the dates you want to view.

I do not have any way to gauge the accuracy of these maps. There are extensive disclaimers on each. But if they are anywhere near correct, the City's new 500-year flood plain plus two feet ordinance is going to be severe and, in many cases, unnecessary. Even more troubling is the new requirement disproportionately affects historically disadvantaged neighborhoods.

There are large areas in neighborhoods like Kashmere Gardens, Sunnyside and Shady Acres, to mention a few, where it will be difficult, if not impossible to build economically. Property values in these areas will almost certainly suffer, even though many have never flooded.[I] In addition to homes in these areas, there are also hundreds of businesses, schools, churches, senior care facilities, libraries, clinics, etc. that will be affected.

The area around Sims Bayou is one of the more dramatic examples. Below are screenshots from an area along Sims Bayou from these new mapping tools. What they show is an area of nearly 200 blocks where the new 500+2 ordinance will require buildings to be raised 2-8 feet, but did not flood in Harvey.

Nor was there any flooding in this area during the Tax Day or Memorial Day floods. In fact, the HCFCD flood gauge system shows that the last time there was any consequential flooding in this area was in 1994.

So why is there such discrepancy between the 500-year flood plain map and actual flooding over the last 34 years along Sims Bayou? The answer appears to be that there has been extensive flood control work done on Sims that significantly improved the conveyance of flood waters in that area. But here is the catch: those improvements have not been reflected in the FEMA flood maps. So, the area is going to be subject to this onerous ordinance for absolutely no reason.

I also toured some of the communities hardest hit by Harvey's flooding recently to see how the City's new 500+2 ordinance compared to the flooding in Harvey. What I found was that in many areas there is very little correlation between the new rule and what actually happened on the ground.

In Kashmere Gardens, for example, there are about 30 blocks where the new ordinance will require the structures to be seven feet or more above the ground. But residents in the area told me that none of the houses had more than about 3-4 feet of water during Harvey. In some areas where structures must be raised over six feet, there was less than a foot of flood water. There are dozens of blocks where structures will have to be raised 2-4 feet, but suffered no flooding in Harvey.

Yet, at the same time I saw dozens of blocks just across Loop 610 near Halls Bayou where houses had more than two feet of water, but are not even in the 500-year flood plain. (Note: What residents told me about the Harvey flooding was consistent with what the HCFCD site shows.)

Every flooding event is unique. And just because an area did not flood in Harvey does not mean that it will not in the future, and vice versa. But these new mapping tools and my tour suggest that the flood plain maps (and especially the 500-year map) are, at best, rough approximations of where future flooding will occur.

Some of the problem arises from the fact that the flood plain maps are seriously out of date in many areas, like Sims Bayou. Changes to the watershed which both reduce flooding and make it worse have not yet been incorporated into the maps.

New maps are due out in the next year or so, but the truth is that they will be out of date by time they are issued. We will never keep up with multiple, highly dynamic watersheds which sometimes interact with each other. And it is impossible to predict every exogenous event that can occur during a storm - like the Corps deciding to open reservoir floodgates. The goal is one day to have a real-time flood map system to which we could load every change to the watersheds as they take place. But it appears to me we are light years away from that now.

While I agree with the general proposition that we need to be building new construction at higher elevations, City Council's knee-jerk adoption of the 500+2 ordinance was ill-considered and intellectually lazy. The resort to a one-size-its-all rule is going to further devastate neighborhoods that are already suffering. Much of the potential benefit from the ordinance could have been accomplished with a more modest increase in the elevation requirement that would not have carried the extraordinary financial and bureaucratic burden that will now fall on property owners.

Many think the ordinance will mainly affect developers and builders, who, in some cases, have developed irresponsibly. But in reality, it will have little effect on them. They are simply going to move outside the City, further accelerating the growth gap between the City and its suburbs. Several builders have already announced they will not build in any of the areas covered by the ordinance, nearly a third of the City.

The ordinance will also likely cause greater gentrification of historic minority communities. For many of the affected residents, their property is their single largest investment. This ordinance will be a financial disaster on top of the natural disaster many have already suffered. It will also affect the ability to build schools, churches, retail, clinics, etc. in the affected areas.

And can you imagine trying to get building permits under the new ordinance? That process is already a nightmare and this ordinance only makes matters worse. You can also expect the City to spend millions in legal fees attempting to defend the new rule.

Whenever you hear someone say, "we have to do something," it is almost always followed by some bad public policy. After years of half-hearted flood regulation and squandering the drainage fees, the City felt it needed to appear to be doing "something." Unfortunately, the "something" they decided to do will have questionable benefits and will create both severe financial hardships and a bureaucratic nightmare for many of our fellow citizens

Bill King

# Elected officials share their words

## Abbott announces veteran hiring incentive for TEF grant recipients

Gov. Greg Abbott announced on June 12 an additional incentive program for new Texas Enterprise Fund grantees designed to encourage the hiring of military veterans. New grantees, in addition to being eligible for funding on a per-job-created basis, will be eligible for an additional \$1,000 per job filled by a veteran during the first year of job creation. This announcement coincides with Texas' celebration of the first annual Women's Veterans Day, which was signed into law by Abbott in the 85th legislative session.

"Texas has one of the largest veteran populations of any state, and it is imperative that we ensure those returning from service continue to have opportunities to work and provide for their families," said Abbott. "Veterans bring unmatched leadership abilities and they already possess many of the technical skills employers are looking for. I'm proud of our state's support for Texas veterans, and it's my hope that future companies will take advantage of this program."

Qualifying positions must be filled by a person who has served in the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard, the National or Air National Guard of the United States, the Texas Army National Guard, Texas Air National Guard, or served in a Reserve component of any of the aforementioned military organizations, and has been honorably discharged from the branch of the service in which

the person served. Last year, Abbott unveiled a comprehensive plan to address the underemployment of Texas veterans, and committed to using all available resources to get the veterans back to work after returning from service. This incentive program is one of the many ways Abbott is working to fulfill this promise, with additional veteran-specific programs scheduled for announcement in the coming year.

Since its inception in 2004, the TEF has awarded about 160 grants totaling more than \$615 million across a wide variety of industries and projects committed to creating almost 94,000 jobs and investing more than \$27 billion in the state of Texas.

# Olson acts to combat violent gang crime

Rep. Pete Olson acted on June 7 to create safer neighborhoods and combat violent gang crime. Olson voted for the Senate Amendment to H.R. 3249, the Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant Program Authorization Act. This bill officially authorizes the Project Safe Neighborhoods Program, which helps stop violent crime by fostering and improving partnerships among federal, state and local agencies. It also helps steer federal funding to regional task forces who are at the frontlines combating transnational gangs like MS-13.

H.R. 3249 passed the Senate unanimously and the House by a vote of 394-13 and now heads to the president's desk for signature.

"Gang violence is a problem that affects communi-

ties across our nation," Olson said. "Between 800 and 1,200 MS-13 gang members live right here in the Greater Houston area, wreaking havoc on our communities. The federal government has a critical role to help protect our families from criminals like MS-13 coming into our nation. This program will help provide our law enforcement with critical resources to combat gang violence. I'm pleased my colleagues voted to put the safety of Americans first and am confident the president will sign this bill into law quickly."

**Highlights of H.R. 3249**  
• H.R. 3249 officially establishes the Project Safe Neighborhoods Block Grant Program within the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Pro-

grams to foster and improve existing partnerships to create safer neighborhoods through sustained reductions in violent crimes.

• The program, first created in 2001, had previously been funded through other grants. The legislation authorizes \$50 million a year for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2020.

• Provides the localities receiving grants under this program with control over how the funds are to be used, to the extent practicable. This local control will ensure local law enforcement is able to allocate funds toward specific problems they have identified.

• Allocates a percentage of the funds to regional task forces in areas with a significant or increased presence of criminal activity caused by gangs.

# Coleman recaps County Affairs Committee hearing

The following is a statement released by Rep. Garnett Coleman regarding the County Affairs Committee hearing.

"The County Affairs Committee which I chair held a hearing in Corpus Christi on Wednesday at the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies at Texas A&M University in Corpus Christi. The committee heard from invited and public testimony regarding the following interim charges:

- Examine how emergen-

cy response activities are organized, funded, and coordinated. Review the impact of natural disasters on county finances. Identify any deficiencies in authority for the most populous counties related to infrastructure planning, emergency response, and recovery. Explore ways to improve efficiencies and manage costs while protecting public safety. Additionally, study the relationship between the state, counties, non-governmental organizations, and churches in

preparing for and responding to Hurricane Harvey and its aftermath, and determine if preparedness plans are adequate.

• Evaluate whether counties have the necessary ordinance-making and enforcement authority to deal with flood risk in unincorporated rural and suburban areas of Texas. Additionally, examine whether counties have adequate resources and authority to ensure that new development in unincorporated areas is not susceptible to flooding."

## Local library events set

### Bracewell Branch Library

The following events are scheduled for the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint:  
Saturday, June 23, 10:30 a.m. Spanish computer class  
Tuesday, June 26, 10:30 a.m. Meet at the library for Houston's Association for Renaissance Martial Arts demonstration which is complete with live sword fighting.  
Wednesday, June 27, 1 p.m. Game of phones.  
Wednesday, June 27, Computer courses: 2 p.m. Computer Basics; 3:15 p.m. Internet Basics; 4:30 p.m. Basic Powerpoint  
Bracewell hours this week are: Thursday, noon – 8 p.m.; Friday, 10 – 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sunday, closed; Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

### Parker Williams Library

The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. this week:  
Thursday, June 21, 3 p.m. Teen Thursday features 8-Bit Art for ages 12 and older. Learn digital pixel art skills and create real 8-Bit art with Perler Beads.  
Friday, June 22, 4 – 6 p.m. Anime Club features *Cowboy Bebop* (rated TV-MA) for ages 12 and older. Meet in the library community room for two hours of jazz-infused action-packed anime and Pocky.  
Saturday, June 23, 10:30 a.m. Ask a Lawyer presents Naturalization, Permanent Residence, and Asylum. Meet attorneys Shuang Leng and Liyue Huang-Sigle and learn more about naturalization, permanent residence and asylum applications. Questions are welcome. Registration is requested.  
Saturday, June 23, 10:30 a.m. SCORE Houston presents on a topic related to small business startup and development. Registration is requested.  
Saturday, June 23, 2 – 4 p.m. Magic: The Gathering Gameplay, for ages 8 and older. A staff member will be present for instruction. A special thank you is given to Strike Zone for the generous donation of Magic: The Gathering cards. For more information, visit <http://www.hcpl.net/sites/default/files/feb-mtg-1.jpg>.  
Monday, June 25, 3 p.m. Teen DIY and a movie features *Ant-Man* (rated PG-13, 117 minutes) and *The Super Hero Maker*, for ages 13 and older.  
Monday, June 25, 5 p.m. Drone Flying Club, ages 8 to adult. Meet the second and fourth Monday to learn how to fly a quadcopter with the flying club. Registration is requested. A grant from the Parker Williams and Harris County Friends of the Library has enabled the purchase of equipment for the drone flying club.  
Tuesday, June 26, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Basic Computer class. Learn about internet resources and practice using them, how to organize your computer, work with pictures and how to download and install programs. Register by signing up on the events calendar on the website or by calling the library at 281-484-2036. Register is requested.  
Tuesday, June 26, 10:15 a.m. The Coffee and Quilting group meets the last Tuesday of every month to work on a project (currently quilting) until finished. Registration is requested.  
Tuesday, June 26, 2 p.m. Musical movies features *Disney Descendants* (rated TV-G, 112 minutes) for ages 3 and older.  
Tuesday, June 26, 2 p.m. Book discussion: *The Midnight Plan of the Repo Man* by W. Bruce Cameron. Pick up the book at the library and meet to discuss it.  
Wednesday, June 27, 2 – 3 pm: Basic computer classes (Vietnamese). Learn mouse, keyboarding, basic internet skills and more at this weekly class in Vietnamese. Register is requested.  
Wednesday, June 27, 2:30 p.m. Program Summer features the Houston Ballet's Dance to Learn (Week 2) for ages 7 and older. Meet in the library community room for an event that is described by Houston Ballet as, "... an arts integration program that approaches academic curriculum from a kinesthetic perspective."  
Wednesday, June 27, 6:30 p.m. Great Decisions: Turkey: A Partner in Crises From the Foreign Policy Association ([www.greatdecisions.org](http://www.greatdecisions.org)) Read an article on the topic at the library and visit for a brief video followed by a discussion. Registration is requested.  
Wednesday, June 27, 7 p.m. Family Fun Night features Dobie HS theater storytellers for ages 5 and older. Meet in the library community room and be entertained as student actors perform classic fairy tales and common stories.  
Below are the programs that occur every week:  
Wednesdays, Preschool storytime, 10:30 a.m. For children, ages 3 to 5 years, storytime features stories, songs, fingerplays and a craft.  
Wednesdays, 2 – 3 pm: Basic computer classes (Vietnamese). Learn mouse, keyboarding, basic internet skills and more at this weekly class in Vietnamese. Registration is requested.  
Thursdays, Toddler storytime, 10:30 a.m. For toddlers from birth to 3 years, storytime features stories, songs, fingerplays and bubbles.  
Saturdays, Vietnamese learning time. Classes begin at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. For more information on these programs, speak with Loc Bui.  
For more information on events, call the library at 281-484-2036.  
Library hours are: Thursday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 – 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sunday, closed; Monday, 1 – 9 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; and Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.

# Death

## Mary Jerome Smith



Mary Jerome (Jo) Smith, longtime South Belt resident, died Monday, June 11, on her 88th birthday. Of course, the consummate planner would execute her entry and exit on the same date.

She was born in Batesville, Ark., on June 11, 1930. Her parents were Jerome and Virginia Jackson. After WWII, while attending Batesville College, she met and fell in love with Herbert Smith who became her lifelong sweetheart. Herbert died on Oct. 21, 2017, the day after their anniversary. She and Herbert were married for 67 years and enjoyed a wonderful life together.

Mary Jo's main desire in life was to be a wife and mother and she did that with excellence — no one has loved their family more. She was creative, resourceful, funny, persistent, determined and full of life. She made sure that the Smith residence had an "open door" policy. If someone needed a soft place to land, their home was a welcoming place — a place for whom many received care for 53 years.

She had a heart for missions, modeled after her dear grandmother Mary Jackson. Young Mary Jo joined her grandmother in many weekly mission meetings. Later in life, Mary Jo and Herbert spent four months in Kenya with various mission projects such as Vacation Bible School and sewing classes. Upon returning to Houston, Mary Jo combined her love of children and missions by founding "King's Kids," an apartment ministry.

She was a top-notch kindergarten and first-grade teacher at Easthaven and Eastwood Baptist Schools. The number one focus in her classroom was to teach those little ones to read.

Mary Jo and Herbert re-

tired in 1984 and began traveling the country. Through her meticulous planning and zest for experiencing new places, they saw all 48 contiguous states and much of Canada. Between trips they also spent time on their beloved Smith Hill in Arkansas. It was her very favorite place on earth.

Mary Jo's four children, Tucker Smith, Susan Hines, Ginger Smith and Rob Smith, are going to miss her dearly. She was the beautiful glue that kept the family close. The four granddaughters, Alicia Beckman, Erin Hines, Jamie Smith and Megan Smith adored their grandmother. The great-grandchildren Mattie Joy and John Beckman loved spending time in Arkansas with their GG. Mary Jo's dear brothers are Jay Jackson and Sam Jackson.

There were many sweet souls who helped care for Mary Jo in her final months. Gratitude is given to a host of family and friends for the help they have given.

Mary Jo once said, "I can't imagine this world without me." The funeral service was held June 16 at Sagemont Church, with interment following in Batesville, Ark.

# FEMA awards \$51 million for HC property acquisition

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has awarded more than \$51 million to the Harris County Flood Control District for the acquisition of 294 flood-prone homes damaged by Hurricane Harvey. Once the structures are removed, the land will be dedicated and maintained as open space to conserve natural floodplain functions.

Previously, the Harris County Flood Control District was awarded more than \$25 million to acquire and remove 169 residential structures. These awards are part

of a larger project to acquire and remove 985 flood-prone properties in Harris County. The overall proposed federal share is \$163 million.

The acquisition and removal of properties is a part of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The program requires a 25 percent non-federal match. The total cost of the project is \$217 million.

FEMA has a long-term commitment to help Texas and its communities recover from Hurricane Harvey and to become more resilient.

HMGP provides funds to

implement hazard mitigation measures following a presidentially declared disaster. Hazard mitigation actions reduce or eliminate the long term risks to people and property from natural hazards.

Grants are designed to assist local communities, states, federally recognized tribes and territories with implementing mitigation measures during the recovery process. The goal is to reduce overall risk to the population and structures from future hazard events, while also reducing reliance on federal funding in future disasters.

# Leader checks out social media

## By Laura Benavides Scallan

There were several posts shared on different community Facebook groups in regard to an officer-involved shooting on Sabo Road on June 18. See page 1A for story.

There was a post shared on *The Official South Belt & Sagemont Area Crime Alert* Facebook group concerning a disturbing incident in Pasadena. The post shared includes photos of a man in a red Chevy Camaro who allegedly exposed himself to a citizen.

A member of the same Facebook group reported that her friend's purse was stolen from the front seat of her vehicle while the friend loaded groceries on Friday, June 15, around 2 p.m. at the Sam's on

Fuqua.

Another member of the same Facebook group posted a card scanner alert. The member had stopped at the corner store at Kirkfair and Beamer where their card was scanned, and used for three separate transactions. All three of the transactions were for almost the same amount and appeared to have been charged at corner stores with different store numbers. The member did speak with the store to alert them and was told that maintenance was out servicing the pumps. The member also posted the alert that a coyote was spotted in the grassy area on Buena Vista, between Atkinson Elementary School and Bracewell Library.

A member of *The Mont!* Facebook group announced that Southbelt Tire & Auto has changed to Cajun Craven Tire & Auto. He also mentioned that since the shop is under new ownership, vehicles will no longer be towed for parking.

A brown female dog with a collar and a black and white male dog with part of a leash attached to its collar have been spotted and reported to the *Ashley Pointe Subdivision* Facebook group.

It was reported on the *Pets of Southbelt* Facebook page that a coyote was spotted in the grassy area on Buena Vista, between Atkinson Elementary School and Bracewell Library.

# Free ballroom dancing available

Ballroom dancing is freely available at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E League City Parkway, every Wednesday afternoon from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Having a partner is helpful but not a requirement. Guests are encouraged to dress comfortably and enjoy the floating hardwood floor with dancers representing all levels of ability. Name tags are provided to assist one in becoming acquainted. For questions, call Neva Schroder, coordinator, at 417 838-2204. Everyone is welcome including students, elderly, singles, and couples.

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BY PATRICK BARLOW & JOHN BUCHAN

Directed by Lavier Young

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# Santa Fe shooting, other emergencies spotlight need for school counselors

One of the first things University of Houston-Clear Lake Professor of Counseling Cheryl Sawyer will insist when she is called in after a tragedy is that it is not about her — it is about the mental well-being of the victims and those who knew the victims. After hearing about the shooting at Santa Fe High School, Sawyer knew there would be a need and she reached out to her school connections and immediately put her lifetime work into action.

"We work very closely with school districts in Galveston County, including Santa Fe Independent School District," explained Sawyer. "I live in that area and know when things happen at the schools. I heard about this early and went to see some of the counselors at the school who I know either because of working with them before or because they are former students of mine. There was a need and I stepped in."

Sawyer is not new to these

types of experiences since she as well as others frequently provide critical-incident counseling. Although emotional when discussing some of the events to which she is called, Sawyer affirms her emotions do not play a part when counseling.

"This is not about me," said Sawyer. "It's not about counselors. It's about the people who have experienced tragedy and how we can help them cope."

Counselors from the Texas Department of Public Safety Victims and Employee Support Services and the Gulf Coast Center Crisis Team as well as others joined Sawyer in Santa Fe. She added that every event also helps her realize that training and education never ends.

"We want to educate school counselors on how they can possibly recognize problems and address them," said Sawyer, emphasizing that it is not just problems

with shooting situations, but also emotional problems because of hurricanes or even recognizing drug abuse or sex trafficking situations.

More recently, Sawyer said that she was working on a grant proposal that would include mental health training for counselors and others in at least six school districts in Galveston County, something that was already in the writing stage when the tragedy in Santa Fe took place.

UHCL alumna Marty Elkins, a Victim and Employee Support Services counselor with the Texas Department of Public Safety, credits the university with helping her prepare for her future career and license. Elkins has worked with the agency for approximately 10 years and said she keeps in touch with her former professor as well as other counselors in the industry.

"We know where to find each other," said Elkins, referencing Sawyer.

Elkins received her Master of Science in counseling from UHCL in 2001 and often reconnects with Sawyer and other UHCL alumni, depending on the case.

"We work with victims in criminal cases that are investigated by the Texas Department of Public Safety and, when requested, our partner agencies," said Elkins. The shooting incident at Santa Fe is just one example of the many criminal cases in which Elkins is asked to participate to support victims.

UHCL's counseling programs include a Bachelor of Science in addictions counseling, Master of Science in counseling with school counselor certification, and Master of Science in counseling with general applied techniques concentration (non licensure). The Master of Science in counseling with clinical mental health counseling concentration will be changed to the Master of Science

in clinical mental health counseling pending Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approval.

"We continue to strengthen our ability to go out and help others, which comes with updating our educational programs and building our knowledge so we can address issues that arise out of situations that are unlike those presented in the past," said Sawyer, who also works with counselors on how to recognize signs that children might be used in sex trafficking, ways to assist refugee children as well as provide guidance and support to homeless families.

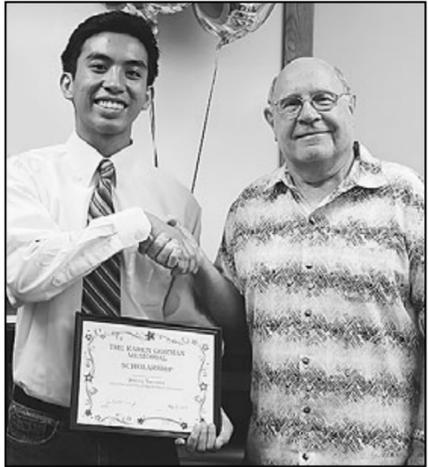
"Responding to crisis situations is not just our responsibility, it is our privilege as counselors," said Sawyer.

To find out more about UHCL's academic counseling programs, visit [www.uhcl.edu/education/departments/counseling-special-education-diversity/counseling/](http://www.uhcl.edu/education/departments/counseling-special-education-diversity/counseling/) or call 281-283-3600.

## Frazier awards scholarships to Dobie seniors

Frazier held its annual scholarship award ceremony on Tuesday, May 22. Seven Dobie seniors who had attended Frazier Elementary School were awarded

scholarships. A group photo of all the scholarship recipients in their graduation gowns will be in next week's *Leader* issue.



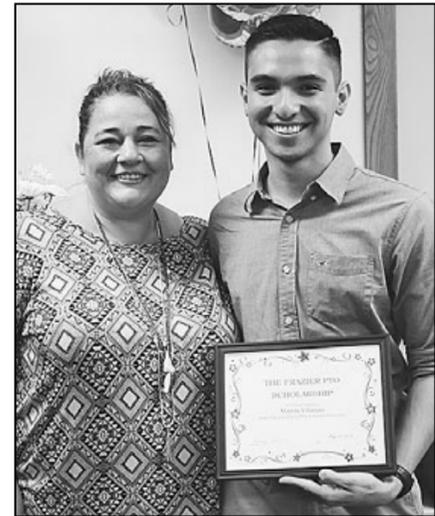
The Karen Gorman Memorial Scholarship was presented to Jeremy Tajonera (left) by the Gorman family. Shown with Tajonera is John Gorman.



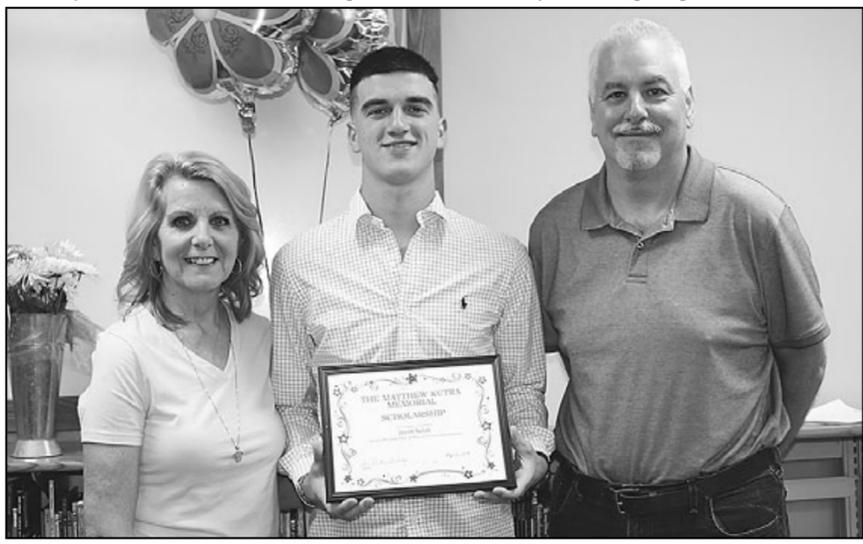
The Ruth Young Memorial Scholarship was presented to Yvonne Whaley (right) by the Young family. Shown with Whaley is Mark Young.



The Lindsay and Lana Simpson Memorial Scholarship was presented to Jonathan Acosta (right) by the Simpson family. Shown with Acosta is Lauren Simpson.



The Frazier PTO Scholarship was presented to Marvin Villatoro (right) by the Frazier PTO. Shown with Villatoro is Wendy Wiseburn, principal.



The Matthew Kutra Memorial Scholarship was presented to Jacob Sulak (center) by the Kutra family.

Shown with Sulak are Julie Kutra (left) and Deron Kutra.



The Frank Wiseburn Memorial was presented to Camryn Davis (center) by the Wiseburn family.

Shown with Davis are, left to right, Wendy Wiseburn and Liza Wiseburn.



The Kimberly Wiseburn Memorial was presented to Jalen Clark (center) by the Wiseburn family.

Shown with Clark are, left to right, Wendy Wiseburn and Liza Wiseburn.

# Sanchez balances two careers, crunching numbers by day, winning fights at night

From nine to five, Roberto Sanchez is a mild-mannered actuarial analyst for American National Insurance, but in the evening, he becomes "Little Fury," a name given to him for his stature and dominance in the Ultimate Fighting Championship.

Sanchez, a Houston native, graduated from San Jacinto College South campus

with an associate degree in mathematics in 2009, after changing his major several times.

"After I graduated high school, I wasn't sure what I wanted to do with my life," Sanchez said. "I tried architecture, engineer and teaching until I settled on math."

While searching for his major one thing always remained constant, his love for mixed martial arts, particularly Brazilian Jiu Jitsu.

"One day I was walking around San Jac and I saw that there was a martial arts club," Sanchez said. "The person teaching the class taught us basic moves. I had been train-

ing with my brother at that time and knew the moves already. It wasn't long before I became president of the club and led the class instruction."

After his graduation from San Jacinto College, Sanchez transferred to University of Houston-Clear Lake and earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics in 2012. In

2015, Sanchez won TXMMA Rookie of the Year for going 3-0 as a pro in the Legacy promotion. He also began studying to become an actuarial analyst to have a career that would support his family without working more than 40 hours a week.

"There are a lot of fighters that do MMA full time," Sanchez said. "You either have to fight more often or work part time. I take my time and lean back on whatever income I have coming in. That allows me to be strategic in what fights I take."

In 2017, Sanchez went pro with the Ultimate Fighting Champion. He holds an 8-1-0 record with seven wins coming by submission.

"I like winning without injuring someone," Sanchez said. "I like to win by submission. If I can take them down quickly, and no one gets injured, that's a huge win in my eyes." Though successful in UFC, Sanchez continues to strive for an equal level of success in his day job. "I'm still studying," Sanchez said. "I just took another actuarial exam last month. I believe in working and adapting your education, so you don't get stuck in a job you don't want."



San Jacinto College graduate Roberto Sanchez celebrates after defeating Joby Sanchez by a chokehold submission in the flyweight bout during the UFC Fight Night event at Frank Erwin Center on Feb. 18 in Austin.

# HCFCD enhances flood warning system

The Harris County Flood Control District has added inundation mapping to the Harris County flood warning system, providing a new tool to help emergency management officials and residents make safety decisions during flooding events.

Information is posted on the Harris County flood warning system website, [www.harriscountytfw.org](http://www.harriscountytfw.org).

Inundation mapping provides information about areas of current bayou and channel flooding, based on information collected by flood warning system gauge stations strategically placed along Harris County bayous and their tributaries. This information is used by the flood control district and by Harris County's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency

Management to inform the public of estimated flooding impacts across the county.

The new inundation mapping tool is not intended as a notification system for the issuing of flood watches, warnings or evacuations. Instead, the estimated inundation data is provided to help residents and emergency management officials make critical decisions that may ultimately reduce the risk of property damage, injuries and loss of life.

Residents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the flood warning system and its new inundation mapping tool, and to monitor inundation levels during times of heavy rain near their homes, schools, work places and daily commuting routes. Users may type in their address to find the gauge nearest their home

or other area of interest.

The new inundation mapping tool generates a map of flooded areas adjacent to Harris County bayous and creeks where the flood warning system has water level gauges. The tool runs continuously to provide live inundation mapping during a flood, though the results may be as much as 15 minutes behind real time due to the time required to generate mapping from the gauge data. The tool also offers an estimate of inundation levels for rain events dating back to 2015.

Inundation mapping is shown to a zoom level of 500 feet and above. The map depicts the current extent of flooding, but does not include water depth. The mapping tool will only generate a new map if the gauge data for water levels changes by one-half foot. Also, damage to gauges during a flood may affect the accuracy of the flooding estimate and inundation mapping in the vicinity of the damaged gauges.

The new mapping tool does not show all flooding that may occur. This map will

not depict flooding from:

- Channels and tributaries without gauges.
- Ponding, which may occur during or after intense rainfall when water gathers in low-lying areas, such as in streets when the capacity of the storm sewer is exceeded.
- Sheet flow, which occurs when intense local rainfall flows overland to reach a channel. Frequently, this conditions exists when water "ponds" in the streets deep enough to flood residences that are not even near a creek or bayou. The water will seek a path to the channel by flowing overland, flooding residences and other structures that are in that path.

Harris County does not assume liability for the misuse or misinterpretation of any data included within this map. Use of these materials constitutes acceptance of this disclaimer of liability.

**How it works**

- Visit [www.harriscountytfw.org](http://www.harriscountytfw.org) on a computer or mobile device.
- The "Map View Options" section at the top left

allows one to add inundation mapping and other features to the county map. (When there has been no rainfall, the inundation mapping feature will not be available.)

- Go to the "Address Search" box in the lower left column and type one's address.
- The map will zoom to the gauge station nearest to a location of interest. The icon shows the amount of rainfall (in inches) received at that location in the past 24 hours.
- Click on the gauge station icon for more detailed information.
- Other "Map View Options" allow one to add watershed boundaries, drainage channels and channel status icons to the county map. The setting in the "Rainfall Data" section may also be changed to show rainfall during various time periods.
- An instructional video that shows how to use the entire flood warning system, including the new inundation mapping tool, is available on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/eb4AFispQSQ>.

## "Little Jacob" arrest has area connection

**Continued from Page 1A**

Alexander Lopez, was discovered unclothed on the beach in the 700 block of Seawall Boulevard on Friday, Oct. 20.

No family or friends were present to claim or identify the child.

When all initial leads dried up, investigators held a press conference, in which an edited photo of the crime scene was released in hopes of identifying the child or his parents.

Hundreds of tips then poured in, and through DNA tests, investigators were able to positively identify Lopez. Further investigation determined Lopez was under the

care of his mother, Rebecca Rivera, and her partner, Dania Amezcua-Gomez. Both women have now been charged with tampering with or fabricating physical evidence.

FBI officials said it is believed that both of them had knowledge of the child's death and were present at the time his body was left on the beach.

The *Leader* has learned from a source familiar with the case that Rivera is a former South Belt resident who attended both elementary and intermediate schools in the area. The investigation is ongoing, and FBI officials said more charges may follow.

## Baylor names honor students

More than 4,000 Baylor University students were named to the Dean's Academic Honor List for the 2018 spring semester. Students honored on the Dean's List are Baylor undergraduates with a minimum grade-point average of 3.7 while enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester hours.

Local student Alexis Dominique Uribe, College of Arts and Sciences made the honor list.

The oldest continuously operating university in Texas,

Baylor University is a private Christian university and a nationally ranked research institution, with a mission to educate students for worldwide leadership and service by integrating academic excellence and Christian commitment in a caring community.

Nestled along the banks of the Brazos River in Waco, Baylor provides numerous educational and research opportunities across various disciplines through 142 undergraduate programs, 75 master's

and 42 doctoral programs, a juris doctor program and education specialist programs. Baylor students interact with outstanding full-time faculty from their first days on campus, with a student-to-faculty ratio of 15 to one. The university's vibrant campus life also includes more than 300 clubs and organizations and varsity athletics competing in the Big 12 Conference.

For more information about Baylor, visit [www.baylor.edu](http://www.baylor.edu).

# County approves bond election

**Continued from Page 1A**  
unanimously to ensure Harris County Commissioners Court will allocate flood bonds in an equitable manner that prioritizes vulnerable regions and communities across the county.

"This is a historic opportunity to right the wrongs of the past and break what would otherwise be an intractable cycle of vulnerability for the many neighborhoods and communities that have gone without urgently needed improvements to flood infrastructure for too long," Ellis said.

"I am grateful for all the work that members of the Flood Control District have done on this issue and remain committed to working with them, community members and my colleagues on Commissioners Court to ensure that every region receives the improvements they need and that vulnerable areas are a top priority."

If approved by voters, the issuance of bonds would be spread over 15 years, and the expected flood control tax increase for most homeowners would be limited to 1.4 percent or less.

For more information, contact Harris County Flood Control District Bond Pro-

gram hotline at 713-684-4107.

**Public input sought**  
The Harris County Flood Control District will hold public meetings in each of the county's 23 watersheds to describe some of the projects the county is proposing and to solicit public input on which projects should be included.

The public hearing on the Clear Creek Watershed, which most affects the South Belt community, will be held Tuesday, July 17, at El Franco Lee Community Center, 9500 Hall Road, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Flood Control officials also have created an interactive website detailing the status of more than 150 proposed and current projects throughout the county.

Some of these projects have been in the works for several years but have been stalled by a lack of money.

The initial list of potential projects and details about the upcoming community meetings can be viewed at [www.hcfd.org/bondprogram](http://www.hcfd.org/bondprogram).

The meetings will conclude Wednesday, Aug. 1, allowing time for county officials to finalize the bond package for voters prior to the Aug. 25 election.

# UHCL announces calendar of events

The University of Houston-Clear Lake has announced its upcoming calendar of events.

**Have a hawk adventure**  
Prospective students and their families are invited to tour University of Houston-Clear Lake's 524-acre campus in a one-hour walking tour led by current UHCL students on June 22 from 10 a.m. to noon. Attendees will also receive information about applying to the university.

Featured stops on the tour include Alfred R. Neumann Library, the UHCL Art Gallery, and natural features such as Potter Pond and Horsepen Bayou. To learn more about Hawk Adventure or to register, visit [www.uhcl.edu/admissions/events/hawk-adventure](http://www.uhcl.edu/admissions/events/hawk-adventure).

**Learn foundations of network technology**  
Attendees at University of Houston-Clear Lake Cyber Security Institute's hands-on course, "Introduction to Networking Technology" will learn the foundations of computer networking in the first three "layers" of the Open Systems Interconnection model.

In the OSI model, seven layers depict the conceptual framework in which network professionals categorize a telecommunications systems. The first three layers represent the physical fundamentals, from hardware and data

transfer to voltages and frequencies.

The course is in room 201 of UHCL's Delta Building, 2700 Bay Area Blvd., on June 22, 23, 29, 30 and July 6, 7, 13, 14, Fridays 3 - 8 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. This is the third part of the four-session Network Management and Security certificate program. The course is \$1,300 and includes instructional materials. For more information, visit the UHCL Cyber Security Institute at [www.uhcl.edu/cyber-security-institute](http://www.uhcl.edu/cyber-security-institute).

**UHCL Movie Night: "Ghost Stories"**

Come to University of Houston-Clear Lake for "Ghost Stories" on Movie Night, Saturday, June 23, at 7 p.m., in the student services and classroom building, 2700 Bay Area Blvd.

A debunker of all things paranormal, Professor Phillip Goodman (Andy Nyman) has devoted his life to exposing phony psychics and fraudulent supernatural shenanigans on his own television show. His skepticism is put to the test when he receives a file of three chilling, inexplicable cases. The film is not rated. Admission is free with UHCL ID, all others are \$4. Parking is free in Lot D. For more information visit [www.uhcl.edu/campus-life/arts/film-speaker-series](http://www.uhcl.edu/campus-life/arts/film-speaker-series).

# San Jac releases upcoming calendar

**Registration now open**  
Registration is now open for fall classes that start on August 27. For more information on steps to register, visit [sanjac.edu/apply-register/overview/registration](http://sanjac.edu/apply-register/overview/registration).

**Music Scholarship Auditions**

The San Jacinto College music department will hold auditions for music scholarships at 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 23, in the Monte Blue Music Building in Corbin Hall, C-5. For more information, visit [sanjac.edu/campus-life/visual-performing-arts/audio-engineering/auditions-scholarships](http://sanjac.edu/campus-life/visual-performing-arts/audio-engineering/auditions-scholarships).

**Engineering with Duct Tape**

Use some everyday recycled materials and a lot of duct tape to build the parts needed for boats, rockets, solar panels and more. Students in third through fifth grade will explore the fun side of engineering at this camp that runs from

8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, June 25, to Thursday, June 28. Sign up at [sanjac.edu/calendar/summer-camps](http://sanjac.edu/calendar/summer-camps).

**FAFSA Days and Nights**

The San Jacinto College financial aid offices are currently hosting their annual FAFSA Days and Nights events at the Central, North and South campuses. Current and prospective students can discuss and receive assistance filling out their FAFSA applications for financial aid.

For more information, contact the financial aid department at 281-998-6150.

The next FAFSA Day and Night events will be held at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 26, in the San Jacinto College North campus Interactive Learning Center, Building N2, room N2.100; and 2 p.m. on Wednesday, June 27, in the San Jacinto College South Campus Interactive Learning Center, Building S12, room S12.130.

# BAGS invites all to meeting

Bay Area Genealogical Society invites everyone to come on Friday, June 29, at 7 p.m. to University Baptist Church to see Irene Walters from Clayton Library present "Fälte (welcome) - to your Irish ancestor!" Meet-and-greet will be held at 6:30 p.m., the program begins at 7 p.m. in the chapel at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Drive. For more information, go to [www.TxBayAreaGen.org](http://www.TxBayAreaGen.org) or call Kim Zrubek at 281-992-2636.

# Over The Back Fence by Alexis

## BIRTHDAY WISHES SENT TO EMORY

Best wishes are sent June 21 to the Rev. Emory Gadd, associate pastor and long-time youth counselor who is active in many areas at Sagemont Church, from friends and the Leader staff. He is active in many community organizations and events.

**NATALIE CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY**  
Wishes for a happy birthday are sent June 21 to Natalie Abarca from husband Jose Abarca; children Kelvin Lopez, Noah, Eliana and Isabella Abarca; her mother Ellie and husband David Flickinger (Leader president); grandparents Marie and David Flickinger; and friends at the Leader.

**SCHOOL DAZE**  
The following personnel of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays June 21 through June 27.

**Atkinson Elementary**  
Marking a memorable birthday June 27 is Tulu Sarkar.

**Burnett Elementary**  
Blow out the birthday candles for Nancy Febst on June 26. Send a birthday greeting June 27 to Donia Colello.

**Bush Elementary**  
The day for a party for Jacquelyn Kennedy

is June 27.

**Meador Elementary**  
Kimberly Square celebrates a birthday June 27.

**South Belt Elementary**  
Sing a happy birthday song June 23 to Susi McDaniel.

**Melillo Middle School**  
Celebrating a birthday June 25 is Leticia Guevara. Penny Havard enjoys a birthday June 26.

**Roberts Middle School**  
June 21 is the day for a birthday celebration for Elizabeth Arrambide. Sing a happy birthday song June 24 to Shannon O'Connor. Send a nice birthday greeting June 27 to Gracie Hernandez.

**Beverly Hills Intermediate**  
The day for a birthday celebration for Gilbert Bonet is June 22.

**Dobie High**  
Leshunda Page celebrates a happy birthday June 22. Send a special birthday greeting June 23 to Tomasa Espinosa and Kevin Roca. Enjoying a birthday June 25 is Jacob Rogers. Share a double-layer birthday cake June 26 with Ana Valencia and Reggie Wilson.

## FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

The Leader sends happy birthday wishes to friends who celebrate a birthday this week:  
Thursday, June 21: Julie Banhart, Becky Benner, Monica Webster, Lynee Fehler, Kyle McMullen, Natalie Garza, Laura De Los Santos, Priscilla Villa and Celina Clark; Friday, June 22: Cassy Gutierrez, Brian Goodwin, Erin Ortiz, Rob Kemp, Sherri Huffman, Bonnie Lamb, Anna Jeffries and Jennifer Nestle; Saturday, June 23: Darryl Reed II, Sylvia Alcala, Jamal Khan and Christa Guthrie; Sunday, June 24: Barbara Stevens, Stephanie Guzman and Lisa Yarzy; Monday, June 25: Caryn Cybulski, Vicki Cox, Keith Lawler, Rebecca Parchmont and Michelle Pewthers; Tuesday, June 26: Phil Sandlin, Eric Waguespack, Telena Bence, Suzy Matthews, Maricela Juarez and Laura Arnold; and Wednesday, June 27: Lorie Medina, Zel Bell, Ruth Clay, Amy Luedecke Pederson, Ynot Guillory, Danielle LeBlanc Judge and Robyn Bryant.

## LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS

Email birthday, anniversary, vacation, congratulations, etc., to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com) with OTBF in the subject line.

Items must be submitted by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

# Clear Creek ISD announces new leadership

**Continued from Page 1A**  
Love, current Clear Springs principal, announced her retirement last month.

Monica Speaks, currently serving as associate principal of Clear Lake High School, was named principal

of Clear View High School.

Klayre Poa, an assistant principal at Clear Falls High School and Ashley Orr, assistant principal at Clear Creek High School, have both been promoted to associate principals at their

respective campuses.

Mandy Scott, current associate principal of Clear Falls High School, was named as the new principal of Creekside Intermediate. Principal Peter Caterina also recently announced his

retirement at the end of the year.

Leatrice Sanders, dean of instruction at Victory Lakes Intermediate, was announced as the new principal of the school. Paige Hutchison has

been named the principal of Ferguson Elementary for the new school year. She is currently the assistant principal of Falcon Pass Elementary.

Suzanne Saunders, the assistant principal at North Pointe Elementary, will be the new principal of Hyde Elementary.

Natalie Uranga, currently serving as CCISD coordinator of student personnel services in Clear Creek ISD, was named CCISD director of counseling and student services.

Elizabeth Raska, currently serving as an assistant principal at Clear Springs High School, was named associate principal at Clear Lake High School.

Laura Glardon, currently serving as an assistant principal at Victory Lake Intermediate School, was named dean of instruction at Clear Falls High School.

Shaterra Jackson, currently serving as an instructional coach in Clear Creek ISD, was named secondary assistant principal at Clear Lake Intermediate.

Shane Zelenski, currently serving as an assistant principal in Pearland ISD, was named secondary assistant principal at Clear Falls High School.

Stephanie Williams, currently serving as a teacher at Clear Falls High School, was named secondary assistant principal at Clear Lake High School.

John Hobratschk, currently serving as a teacher at Clear Falls High School, was named secondary assistant principal at Space Center Intermediate.

Brian Webb, currently serving as a teacher at Clear Creek High School, was named secondary assistant principal.

# Meador chess team enjoys matches outside



The Meador Elementary chess team joined by a couple of Deer Park High School volunteers enjoyed a few end-of-year matches on the life-sized chess board. Enjoying the outside board on a sunny afternoon are, left to right, (front row) Alejandro Martinez, Hussai

Arias, Richard Le, Jaedon Sinclair, (middle row) Minh Nguyen, Kiera JnLouis, Jillian Mikulski, Jennifer Tran, (back row) Sydney Kelly and Nicholas Merida. Both Kelly and Merida are seniors at Deer Park High School. Photo by Tara Merida

# Remember When

## 40 years ago (1978)

The United Sports Association was considering the acceptance of an offer from the South Texas Pipe Line Company to grant an easement across the property in exchange for approximately \$5,700.

Jennifer Smith was named the winner of the first age division of the "My Hero" contest held at Alameda Mall naming her father as her hero.

## 35 years ago (1983)

A decline in state revenues for education resulted in Pasadena Independent School trustees recommending that salaries of all district employees be frozen. They also recommended that 83 teacher aides be terminated. They also stated the possibility of a tax increase.

A homebuilder in South Bend agreed to discontinue building 900 square foot homes and to tear out a parking lot after being picketed by residents threatening legal action for deed restriction violations.

## 30 years ago (1988)

Southbend residents were raising a stink over soil excavation at the Brio site, which they said had caused more than just a stink, by possible distribution of toxic substances.

Twenty-five year-old Ignacio Trevino, who was promoted to head custodian at Moore Elementary was involved in a mowing accident. Sandra Yandell saw him and discovered the injury to his right foot. She loaded him into her Jeep and drove him to the hospital.

## 25 years ago (1993)

Stephanie Gonzales, 17, was crowned Miss South Belt at the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce competition held at Frazier Elementary School.

The South Belt-Ellington Leader received four Excellence in Journalism awards from the Houston Press Club at the annual awards dinner held at the Sheraton Astro-dome. It was the most awards for any weekly newspaper in the competition. Cheryl Bolen, news editor, and Marie Flickinger, co-publisher, were presented awards by Channel 13's Tom Koch. Bolen and Flickinger shared a first-place award in series. Flickinger earned a second place and a third place in commentary, and Bolen earned an honorable mention in series.

## 20 years ago (1998)

Diamantina Kolojaco was arrested and charged with the conspiracy to commit capital murder of her husband Darryl Kolojaco.

Oakley Davidson retired from Thompson Intermediate after 28 years. Davidson served as Thompson's head football coach.

## 15 years ago (2003)

Late intervention by several people saved the area's South Belt Fourth of July parade. The fate of the parade was in doubt due to the city of Houston ordinance limiting parades to two per day. Jim Young, director of communications for Houston Mayor Lee Brown, City Councilwoman Addie Wise-man and HPD Chief Clarence Bradford all had a hand in helping save the annual South

Belt event.

The South Belt annual cookoff competition raised \$9,000 to be spent on fireworks for the year's Fourth of July parade.

A Texas Department of Transportation correspondence discredited the claim made to city of Houston officials that the Bellagio apartment complex had authority to drain into the TxDOT retention pond. The correspondence confirmed residents' fears regarding flooding from the construction of apartment complexes located near Sabo and Gulf Pointe.

## 10 years ago (2008)

For the second time in one month, deputies from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's Office arrested someone for attempting to pass a counterfeit bill. Deputy James May responded to a call at a restaurant in the 10900 block of Scarsdale, where a man had reportedly tried to spend a counterfeit \$20 bill. The suspect, John Johnson, 60, was arrested and charged with a felony count of passing a counterfeit bill. Earlier in the month, deputies arrested suspect William Henderson for attempting to pass a counterfeit \$100 bill at two separate businesses in the 10900 block of Scarsdale. He, too, was charged with a felony count of passing a counterfeit bill.

In response to soaring gas prices, Sagemont Church treated 500 lucky drivers to \$10 worth of free gas at the Kroger at Sabo and Beltway 8. The event was part of the five-day Houston Mission-

ary Project sponsored by the church's student ministry.

In a related story, a Bridgegate resident reported to police that someone had stolen \$75 worth of gas from her vehicle parked in her driveway in the 10800 block of Bradford Way.

Three suspects unsuccessfully attempted to steal an ATM machine from a store in the 10800 block of Scarsdale. According to deputies, three men backed a pickup truck through the storefront but were unable to uproot the machine, which was heavily bolted down. The truck involved in the crime was found a few blocks away with the motor still running and the steering column broken. The truck was discovered to have been stolen. The vehicle was transported to the Harris County Sheriff's Office to be scanned for fingerprints. No arrests were immediately made.

## 5 years ago (2013)

A former South Belt resident was killed in an auto-pedestrian accident in the 17000 block of the Gulf Freeway near Dixie Farm Road. According to police, April (Tyler) McKenzie, a 1995 Dobie graduate, was attempting to cross the southbound lanes of the freeway around 6 a.m. when she was fatally struck by a silver Ford Taurus. McKenzie, 38, was pronounced dead at the scene. The driver of the Taurus was questioned and released without charges. The incident caused a chain reaction of automobile accidents in which one vehicle caught fire and another rolled over several times. Two peo-

ple in the wrecked cars were taken to the hospital in stable condition.

The Clear Creek Independent School District announced the selection of Superintendent Dr. Greg Smith as the 2013 Texas PTA Superintendent of the Year. Smith had also been named the Administrator of the Year by the Texas Classroom Teachers Association and Texas Superintendent of the Year by the Texas Association of School Boards.

Authorities raided a stash house for illegal immigrants on Edgebrook near Radio. Police said they were tipped off by one of the immigrants who was able to escape from the house. Once inside the house, authorities found at least 14 men being held against their will. The men were all suspected of being in the country illegally. The rescued immigrants were loaded on a bus and placed in federal custody. No immediate arrests were made.

## 1 year ago (2017)

An F-16 Fighting Falcon jet from a detachment of the 138th Fighter Wing, stationed at the Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base, crashed on takeoff the morning of Wednesday, June 21. The pilot safely ejected and was evaluated at a local medical facility. The aircraft, under the direction of the North American Aerospace Defense Command, was conducting a training flight. Several local streets, including Beltway 8, were temporarily closed following the incident, causing extensive traffic delays.

# Hero names sought

**Continued from Page 1A**  
der of the nominees will be included in a special project to be unveiled at the event. Beginning this week, the Leader will feature individual stories of heroes that have already been nominated. See related letters on Page 2A.

Residents wanting to nominate a hero

can fill out a form at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdsNjAGbnJBXAvIseWPouS1feJKcYinOb7mGkbVgvGXyU6i6VA/viewform>. Hero nominations to also be considered for publication in the Leader should be submitted to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com).

# Cheerleaders host breakfast buffet

Dobie cheerleaders are hosting a breakfast buffet from 8 to 10 a.m. at Applebee's on Fairmont Parkway. Tickets are \$10 which include pancakes,

eggs, sausage, bacon and a drink. Tickets may be purchased in advance from all Dobie cheerleaders and will also be on sale at the door the day of the event.

# DAR awards given



Sharon Boeger, a longtime resident of Sageglen and co-chairperson of the Jane Long Chapter DAR "Good Citizen" committee recently presented awards to local high school seniors. One senior from every high school in each of the 50 states receives this prestigious award. Jane Long Chapter proudly presented the award to seniors from all 12 Pasadena high schools. Shown above with Boeger (right), J. Frank Dobie High School senior Marcey Tsikis received the DAR "Good Citizen" pin, certificate and wallet card. Marcey is in the top three percent of the Class of 2018 in which there were 1,050 seniors. Her parents Johnny and Emma Tsikis are both employees of PISD. Shown below with Boeger (right), South Houston High School senior Yelitza Barragan received the Daughters of the American Revolution "Good Citizen" certificate, pin and wallet card. She is the daughter of Ilda and Leonardo Barragan and was designated top student in her senior class.



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# UHCL artist connects with Santa Fe shooting victims

Just after the May 18 shooting rampage at Santa Fe High School that killed 10 and wounded 13 others, the community began looking for ways to express its shock and grief. University of Houston-Clear Lake senior art student McKenna Bailey found a way she felt she could adequately express her grief over the loss of life.

"When the shooting happened, all victims were in the art room," Bailey said. "Those kids were artists. I wanted to find a way to connect to them as one artist to another."

Bailey, who is working toward her Art and Design

Bachelor of Fine Arts with studio concentration, said she decided to try to contact each lost victim's family and offered her services as an artist.

"I said, what if I painted a portrait of all the people who died?" Bailey said. "I really love painting and art. I started on the journey of getting in contact with families. I started out by speaking to my professor, Jason Makepeace (assistant professor of art)."

"I thought it was a very honorable gesture for her to use her artistic talents in this way," Makepeace said. "What a unique way to pay respects and to remember the ones who have passed." He

added that he helped Bailey gain access to the wood shop so that she could begin constructing her canvases for this project.

After speaking with her professor, Bailey said she simply wrote a Facebook post asking if anyone knew the victims or their families. She made the post open to the public and it was shared many times. She began receiving responses.

"Ann Perkins was one of the substitute teachers in the art room," Bailey said. "Her daughter saw my post and messaged me that she'd love for me to do her portrait."

After asking for photos

that best represented Perkins, and hearing some stories about her, Bailey learned that she loved nothing more than sailing and having a glass of wine with her friends. "I got a photo of her on a boat with a glass of wine, and her daughter said that if her mother could be anywhere, that's where she'd be," she said.

Of the 10 who died, Bailey said she'd received responses from the families of six of them. "One was a foreign exchange student and I'm looking for her host family," she said. "Others have been pretty open on social media. There are four I haven't yet gotten, but I hope I will hear

from them."

She began painting Perkins' portrait and hopes to finish in about a week. "I'd like to get one out each week and ultimately, give to the families as a gift," she said. "I would like to show them as a collection first, and let people who were affected in the community see them. I think portraits are deeply personal — much more so than photos."

For more information about UHCL's art and design Bachelor of Fine Arts with studio concentration, visit [www.uhcl.edu/academics/degrees/art-design-bfa-studio-concentration](http://www.uhcl.edu/academics/degrees/art-design-bfa-studio-concentration).

# Venture Crew 692 holds Court of Honor



On Saturday, June 9, the Venture Crew 692, chartered by St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, held its first Court of Honor ceremony and honored six 2018 graduates. Shown are some of the graduates, left to right, Michael Wooton, Jeremy Tajonera, Jason Sabal and Justin

Nguyen. The graduates attended Dobie High School. Not shown in the photo are Kyle Mamitag and Adamaris Ceja. The Venture Crew is a program of the Boy Scouts of America. Venturing is a coed program for young adults who have completed the eighth grade, ages 13 through 20.

# Bayou Theater season begins soon, offers season tickets

With almost twice as many outstanding performances to offer Clear Lake theater-lovers this season than last, the Bayou Theater at University

of Houston-Clear Lake is gearing up for a brand new season that covers almost all musical genres. "There are some great benefits we're offering season

package buyers this year," said Alex Malone, Bayou Theater managing director. Season tickets went on sale on Friday, June 15.

The 2018-2019 season features 18 shows with nationally and internationally known artists. "Trey McLaughlin and Sounds of Zamar will

present a special performance of gospel music, and vocalist Graeme James, who's on his first U.S. tour all the way from New Zealand, is making a stop here on our stage," Malone said. "People will recognize Mandy Harvey from 'America's Got Talent' and Alex Preston, a finalist on 'American Idol.' We are really becoming Clear Lake's premier performing arts center."

Malone said the season is grouped into four "unique and exciting series" which includes: Mercury and More, Spotlight, Showstopper and Americana. "If you purchase a season ticket, you'll have exclusive access to purchase tickets to the two very special shows that are not part of any series — Trey McLaughlin and Sounds of Zamar, and Rockapella," Malone said. "These performances are included in the premier package, which includes tickets to all 18 shows for the lowest price."

Another benefit to buying a season ticket early, "... is that you'll get the best seats on your preferred night for 'Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka,' which is a full-scale musical that we're producing collaboratively with Bay Area Houston Ballet & Theatre," said Malone.

Malone added season packages are going on sale now so that theater-goers can plan their schedules around the performances — even if a last-minute change is necessary. "You can swap the value of a ticket for another show if you need to," he said. "A season package is the best way to go."

Longtime Clear Lake favorite Mercury will return for a four-concert series, including a very special February presentation of "An Evening of Mozart Symphonies," including the Jupiter symphony as well as classics from Vivaldi, Paganini and Tchaikovsky.

"An expanded season like this would not be possible without a wonderful sponsor like Opus Ocean Grille," Malone said. "Their generosity enables the arts in Clear Lake to continue to thrive."

The Bayou Theater is highlighting the holidays with two of the most exciting performances of the season. "Celebrate the holidays with family here at the theater," Malone said. "We have Annie Moses Band, a Juilliard-trained group of six siblings playing the highest caliber of holiday bluegrass selections. And we've got Riders in the Sky, who have been together for 40 years playing music. They're the Grammy Award-winning group whose music you've heard watching 'Toy Story 2' or 'Monsters, Inc.' and they're celebrating a special cowboy comedy holiday event on our stage."

Single tickets go on sale Aug. 1. To purchase season tickets, call 281-283-2065, email [bayouthheater@uhcl.edu](mailto:bayouthheater@uhcl.edu) or visit [www.uhcl.edu/bayouthheater](http://www.uhcl.edu/bayouthheater).

# Gutierrez guides, helps Monterroza

Evangelina Monterroza, one of South Houston High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Paul Gutierrez, South Houston High School advanced placement biology teacher.

Monterroza has participated in several community services projects through Staples, Lowes, Shoes for Kids, Grace Kids Ministry, Houston Food Bank, Student Hero and National Psoriasis Foundation Regional Youth ambassador and head committee chair.

Monterroza plans to attend Cornell University to study hotel administration. She plans to be a financial analyst for an international hotel.

Monterroza commented on Gutierrez, "Mr. Gutierrez has shaped my education career and life in an infinite amount of ways. Through his guidance and help in every aspect of my life, I've had someone to ask questions nobody could answer and someone to encourage me to reach dreams that weren't considered possible. Since I was a freshman eating lunch in his room every day, I have grown and learned so much. High school wouldn't have been what it was without him, and I'm proud to say Mr. G has been with me through all four years of tears, stress, joy and determination."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of students being honored along with their favorite mentor. The Shining Stars represent

the Top South Houston High School students. The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Top Shining Stars from Dobie, Pasadena Memorial, and Kirk Lewis Technical high schools.



# Esteban-Torres impacts Garcia

Mariano Andres Garcia, one of Pasadena Memorial High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Luz Esteban-Torres, grade 11 pre-advanced placement/advanced placement chemistry teacher.

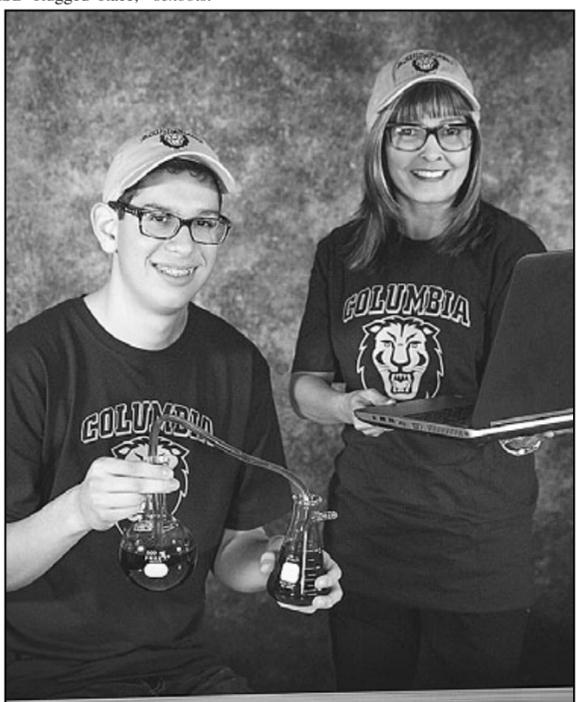
Garcia has volunteered his time with several organizations which include the Pasadena ISD Rugged Race, Fairmont Chick-fil-A Family Nights, Garfield Elementary Fall Festival, Crenshaw Park clean-up, Lions Club of Pasadena chili dinner, Mae Smythe Elementary Family Valentine's Day Dance, Oasis of Faith Church youth programs, local Hurricane Harvey relief efforts at the Scarsdale neighborhood, Meals on Wheels placemat decoration and the Pasadena Strawberry Festival.

For the fall of 2018, Garcia will be attending Columbia University in New York where he was accepted in an early decision in 2017.

Garcia had the following to say about Esteban-Torres, "There is no word or combination of words in the English lexicon that can do justice to Mrs. Esteban's impact on my life. Encontrar a una persona que sea tu amigo y aparte te ense', eso es un verdadero tesoro. Mrs. Esteban is an outstanding educator, but more importantly, she is a selfless, inspiring woman. I had the honor of being her student for two consecutive years, and seeing her grow professionally while I grew intellectually under her tutelage, is an invaluable memory I will forever cherish. Mrs. Esteban, you deserve the world, and then some."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of students being honored along with their favorite mentor. The Shining Stars represent the Top Pasadena Memorial

High School students. The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Top Shining Students from Dobie, South Houston and Kirk Lewis Technical high schools.



# Ta finds Sanders' devotion inspiring

Andy Phi Hung Ta (right), one of J. Frank Dobie High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Cheryl Sanders, HOSA sponsor.

Ta has volunteered at various events with HOSA, Key Club and the National Honor Society. He also volunteers at

CHI St. Luke's Hospital. Ta plans to attend the University of Houston.

Ta commented on Sanders, "Mrs. Sanders was the sponsor of HOSA during my last two years at Dobie. Through her jokes and dedication, she motivated members to actively participate within the club and made the club more fun to be in. She also encouraged members to compete in the HOSA competitions and she was so devoted to help the members that she stayed after school pretty much every day till 6 p.m. so that the students have a place where they could study and practice their skills. Although I did not make it in competition, her devotion to promoting the next generation of health professionals has made me want to pursue a biomedical engineering career so that I help further the medical field through new innovations."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of students being honored along with their favorite mentor. The Shining Stars represent the Top Dobie High School students. The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Top Shining Stars from Pasadena Memorial, South Houston and Kirk Lewis Technical high schools.



# Guerra gains encouragement from Sawyer

Karlie Opal-Lorraine Guerra (left), one of Kirk Lewis Career and Technical High School's Shining Stars, is shown with distinguished educator Steven Sawyer, Genoa Elementary fourth grade teacher.

Guerra has volunteered alongside the school's National Honor Society and the Pasadena Public Library, and has participated in peer tutoring, and volunteered in the CTHS's Junior Academy.

Guerra plans to earn a bachelor's degree in psychology from either Texas State, the University of North Texas or Trinity University. She wants to continue her education to earn a master's degree in family and consumer science in pursuit of becoming a child life specialist.

In regards to Sawyer, Guerra stated, "Being in Mr. Sawyer's class was an experience like no other. He made learning fun and exciting. He gave me encouragement like no other teacher before and pushed me to be a better student. He saw my true potential before others did. The motivation and encouragement he gave me while I was in his class has been something that has driven me to strive for the best in school and my life. The lessons that I learned in his class will be something I will carry on with me for the rest of my life."

The South Belt Shining Stars will be presented in a series of students being honored along with their favorite mentor. The Shining Stars represent the Top Kirk Lewis Career Technical High School students.

The information and photos were submitted by Pasadena Independent School District. The Leader is also running the Top Shining Stars from Dobie, Pasadena Memorial and South Houston high schools.



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Sunday	7:30, 9:15, 11:15 a.m.	
Sunday	1:00 p.m. Misa en Español	
Monday, Wednesday, Friday		9:00 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday		7:00 p.m.

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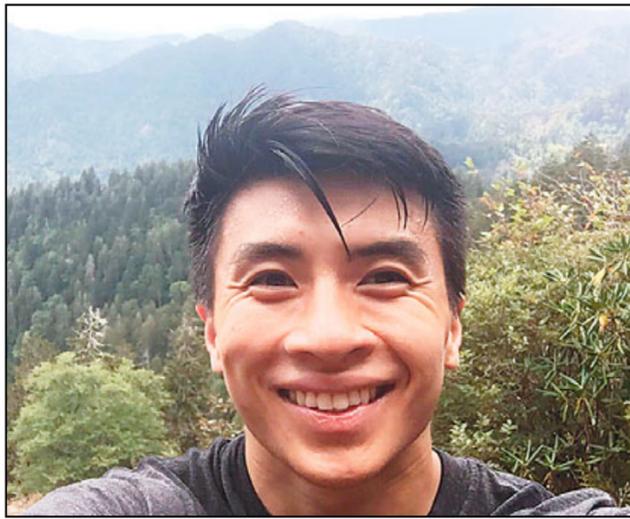
**WEEKLY SERVICE TIMES**

Sunday	Wednesday
Early Service • 7:45 a.m.	Prayer Meeting • 7:00 p.m.
Sunday School • 9:30 a.m.	Mid-Week Service • 7:45 p.m.
Worship Service • 10:45 a.m.	

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# Leader to award Schlitterbahn ticket prizes in vacation pic contest

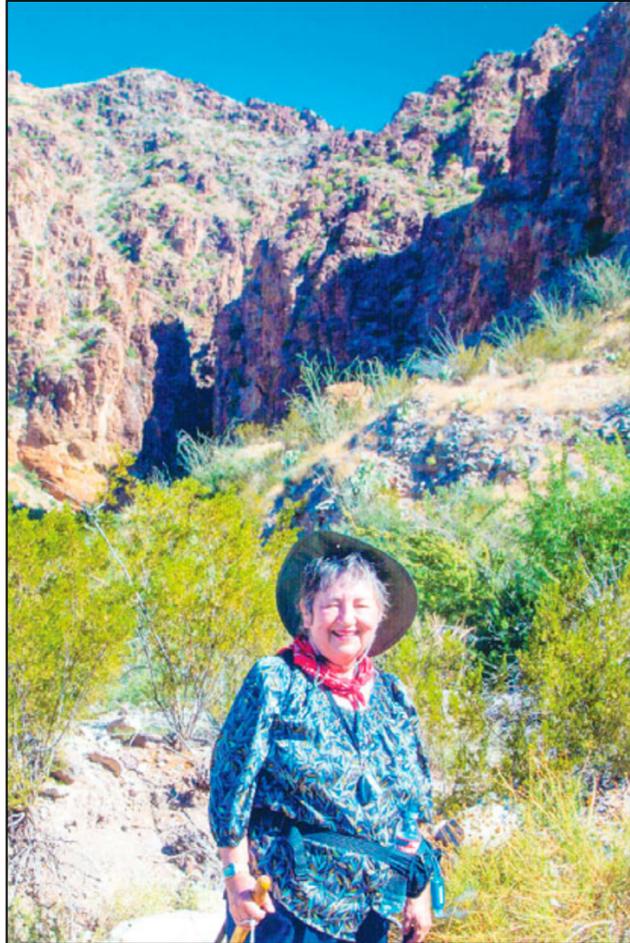
## Vu rafts Tennessee river



Shown above is Andrew Vu, Sagemont resident and Dobie alumnus, enjoying the view from the mountains in Tennessee. Shown below, he and a group of 2009 Dobie graduates also rafted along the Ocoee River. Having a great time white water rafting are, left to right, Blake Carroll, Dianne Nguyen, Vu, Sebastian Soto, Mishari Fuhaid, Sereen Qutob and Jeff Burton. According to Vu, this river was the location for the 1996 Atlanta Olympics slalom competition.



## Schoppa treks favorite place



Dana Schoppa, South Belt artist, visited Chisos Mountains Lodge in Big Bend National Park in Texas. "My favorite place on earth," said Schoppa. She has done paintings for the lodge for 36 years.

Submissions for the *Leader's* 2018 vacation photo contest are currently being accepted for possible publication. A first-, second-, and third-place prize of Schlitterbahn Galveston tickets will be awarded each month during June, July and August to all winners. All submissions should identify each person in the photo and provide a brief description of when and where it was taken. All photos should be emailed to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com).

## Kutras visit New York, Boston



Deron (left) and Julie Kutra took a week-long vacation at the end of May to New York and Boston. Shown above, the Kutras take in the view at the Statue of Liberty. While in New York, they visited Ellis Island, Times Square, 911 Memorial and Museum and watched the Houston Astros play the Yankees at Yankee Stadium. Shown below, Julie shows support for the Astros outside Yankee Stadium.



The Kutras also experienced Boston. Shown above, the Kutras enjoyed dinner and a few beverages at Cheers. Shown below, Julie showed her love for the Astros at Fenway Park during a Boston Red Sox game.



## Garcias enjoy Orlando



The Garcia family enjoyed a vacation in Orlando. The family was able to visit Universal Studios and rode the E.T. ride and took a photo with him. Shown above with E.T. are, left to right, (first row) David Garcia, Genoa Elementary student; Edgar Garcia, Bondy Intermediate student; (second row) Mayra Garcia, mom; and Alger Garcia, dad. Shown below, the family takes a photo next to a car at the new Fast and Furious Supercharged ride.



The Garcias also enjoyed a day at LEGOLAND. Shown with some Lego figures at Lego statue are, left to right, Edgar, David, Mayra and Alger.

## County receives more buyout funds

**Continued from Page 1A** declared disaster. Hazard mitigation actions reduce or eliminate the long-term risks to people and property from natural hazards. Grants are designed to assist local communities, states, federally recognized tribes and territories with implementing mitigation measures during the recovery process. The goal is to reduce overall risk to the population and structures from future hazard events, while also reducing reliance on federal funding in future disasters. Approximately 50 homes in the South Belt community were accepted into the voluntary program during the first allocation of federal funds. At press time, it was unclear how many, if any, area homes would be accepted during this second allocation.

## Time to sign up for July 4 parade

**Continued from Page 1A** Community and nonprofit groups may sign up for the parade at no charge, unless they wish to be eligible for a prize. A \$50 fee is charged for commercial entries. Non-commercial entries may enter the contest for \$25. From Beverly Hills Intermediate, the parade route will then head north on Beamer to Fuqua, then east to Sabo/Hughes Road, before traveling south onto Beamer to the parade's final destination of San Jacinto College South. While the procession will begin at 10 a.m., participants are encouraged to arrive at least an hour early. Entry forms are available on Page 4B; at the *Leader's* office, 11555 Beamer; and [www.southbeltleader.com](http://www.southbeltleader.com). The forms are to be filled out and returned to the *Leader's* office, faxed to 281-481-5730 or emailed to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com) by July 2. For convenience, entry forms may be dropped off through the mail slots located on each side of the front office doors. **Fireworks display** Later that evening, residents may view the annual fireworks show at El Franco Lee Park, located at 9400 Hall Road. Funded by the annual South Belt Spectacular Cook-off, the display is scheduled to begin around 9:30 p.m.

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# SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

## SJC baseball pair are All Americans

San Jacinto College shortstop Alerick Soularie and sophomore pitcher Jacob Cantleberry garnered All-America status after leading the Gators to a third-place national finish this season.

Soularie, a 2017 graduate of Atascocita High School, delivered a terrific offensive season with San Jacinto College. He led the team with a .402 batting average and also had team highs of eight triples and 23 stolen bases.

At season's end, he was named a third team All-America selection.

The eventual 29th round selection of the St. Louis Cardinals in the 2018 First-Year Amateur Player Draft also had 10 homers while driving in 47 runs.

Soularie could choose to sign with St. Louis this summer or head to the University of Tennessee, where he has reportedly signed to continue his collegiate playing career.

Cantleberry, who won 23 career games at San Jacinto College, was named an honorable mention All-America pick in 2018.

**Continued on Page 2B**

## Hartman picked to lead JFD girls' basketball program

By John Bechtle  
Sports Editor

As the Dobie girls' basketball program ventures into the newly revamped District 22-6A alignment, there will be a new face leading the way.

Jasmine Hartman, who starred at Bellaire High School before enjoying a solid career at the University of Oklahoma, has been named just the third Lady Longhorns' head coach in the past 30 years.

She replaces Shane Brown, who retired from coaching last month to spend more time with family. He will remain at Dobie as an instructor.

There were more familiar faces who interviewed for the job, but Hartman won over Dobie principal Franklin Moses and his search committee with her overall preparedness and much more.

"Jasmine stands out as someone who is energetic and enthusiastic, and we just really feel her style and the plan she has set out is a great fit for our kids," Moses said.

"We were extremely impressed with her portfolio and her overall plan moving forward with the Dobie program.

"She's played in two Final Fours, was a team captain for three years. Her references all gave a glowing endorsement

of what they feel like she brings to the table. And having played collegiately at the University of Oklahoma, she brings instant

credibility."

Hartman will come to Dobie High School after a three-year coaching stint at Liberty High School in Liberty, Texas.

After a 1-11 first year, in district play, Hartman got Liberty to the postseason in both 2016-2017 and 2017-2018.

Hartman certainly is familiar with the Dobie High School brand.

A 2008 Bellaire High School graduate, Hartman led the Cardinals to a 36-2 overall record and a regional quarterfinal appearance during her senior year while leading the nation in assists with 528 (13.9 per game).

But her familiarity with the Dobie programs runs deeper than that. She remembers Dobie legend Karima Christmas, who as a freshman helped a senior-laden and talent-rich Lady Longhorns' squad to the Region III championship.

Hartman is a school year younger than Christmas, but obviously knows her hoops history.

Hartman will come to Dobie High School after a three-year coaching stint at Liberty High School in Liberty, Texas.

But even after leading Class 4A Liberty to back-to-back playoff appearances, Hartman admitted to being a bit shocked when Moses called her to offer his basketball job opening to her.

"Dobie is a 6A program that certainly has had a lot of success," Hartman said.

"They reached I guess you would say the pinnacle in 2004-2005 by winning the regional title. I am a year younger, but I

remember Karima Christmas. Doug Gibson was their coach, and I know coach (Shane) Brown has done a great job during his time there.

"This is a great job with I'm sure a great group of student-athletes. I told myself I had to at least apply

for the job and go through the process.

"I figured the job, although it came open late, would attract some solid candidates. To be named the head coach at Dobie High School is truly a great feeling."

**Continued on Page 6B**



At right, Jasmine Hartman led the nation in assists as a senior at Bellaire High School before enjoying a nice playing career at the University of Oklahoma. After a stint at Liberty High School, Hartman has been named the varsity girls' basketball head coach at Dobie High School. She replaces Shane Brown, who retired from coaching last month.

*Photo by Ty Russell*

### Jasmine Hartman Career Notes

**Coach at Liberty HS**  
Three seasons overall, including last two as playoff qualifiers at Liberty High School.

**Player at Univ. of Oklahoma**  
Played in 143 career games at Oklahoma, which was then a team record. Started 28 games at point guard and was a three-time team captain, as elected by her teammates. Suffered a second knee injury as a senior but came back as a red-shirt senior to play and was also an Academic All-Big 12 First Team Selection.

**Player at Bellaire HS**  
Led the nation in assists as a senior in 2008, collecting 528 for 13.9 per game. Bellaire reached regional quarters that season, going 36-2. Earned all-state first team and All Greater Houston first team honors, played in Texas Association of Basketball Coaches All-Star Game. Rated nation's No. 12 point guard by SLAM Magazine.

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## Dobie softball great McDonald lands Campbell University job

Dobie High School graduate Sharonda McDonald, who has since played and coached in the NCAA Women's College World Series, has been named head softball coach at Campbell University, director of athletics Bob Roller announced in a press release June 19.

This past season, the Camels went 29-27 overall on the field.

McDonald, a 10-year coaching veteran, will now lead the Campbell women's softball program in Buies Creek, N.C., after serving this past season as assistant coach at Ohio State University.

Prior to her time with the Buckeyes, she was an assistant coach at the Uni-

versity of Florida, Louisiana State University and Texas Tech University.

As both a player and a coach, McDonald has been a part of eight NCAA Regionals, three NCAA Super Regionals, and two Women's College World Series.

She was also the head coach of the Chicago Bandits of the National Pro Fastpitch League in 2017.

"We are extremely pleased that Sharonda will lead our softball program," Roller said.

"For the past month, I have spoken with countless head coaches across the country, and each conversation eventually led to Sharonda.

"She's been around

championship-caliber teams as both a player and a coach, and we look forward to seeing this transformation with our softball program."

Following a stellar career at Dobie that ended in 2003, McDonald, was a four-time All-Big 12 selection as a player at Texas A&M from 2004-07.

She still holds numerous records with the Aggies for most runs scored and stolen bases, while leading the NCAA in 2005 with 48 steals to earn the Golden Shoe Award.

Her sisters, Krystal and Iver, also played at Dobie. Krystal later played at San Jacinto College, and Iver played at the University of Oklahoma.



Dobie graduate Sharonda McDonald (right) has been named the women's softball head coach at Campbell University in Buies Creek, N.C.  
*Photo courtesy of University of Florida*

## June 27-30 in Webster

### Rising Stars tracksters head to regionals

Another summer, and another banner season of results for the Rising Stars Track Team, the South Belt area's longstanding youth track and field squad.

Head coach Ivory Kimble was all smiles as 21 of his team's 22 entrants at the Amateur Athletic Union Gulf District Junior Olympics qualifier advanced to the regional level after a series of terrific performance June 14-16 at Klein ISD's Memorial Stadium.

In the individual events, each of the top 16 finishers in each event qualified for regionals.

Next up, the Rising Stars are preparing for a trip to the Region 17 National Qualifier, to be held June 27-30 at Challenger Columbia Stadium in Webster.

There, athletes will vie for invitations to the national championships later this summer.

It's a great accomplishment for a South Belt team that began preseason workouts in February and has trained consistently to

be at this point.

There are many standouts among the group, including several athletes who have qualified for as many as three events at regionals.

Izard Evans, who competed in the primary division (8-under) has already competed in regionals at Rice Stadium. He reached regionals in the 800-meter run, the 1,500-meter run and the turbo javelin.

Among those headed to Challenger Columbia Stadium, 14-year-old division competitor Camryn Dickson led the way for the Rising Stars.

A national finalist in previous seasons, Dickson seems well on her way this time around. At the Gulf Region championships, Dickson won the 200-meter and 400-meter dashes and placed second in the 100-meter dash. She also qualified for regionals in the turbo javelin.

A time of 26.32 seconds was plenty good enough for Dickson to win the 200-meter dash, and she also led the way to the finish line in the 400-me-

ter dash at 57.36.

In the 100-meter dash, Dickson battled to the end before taking second at 12.63. Jason Doswell, 13, is also off to regionals for

three appearances. In addition to the turbo javelin, Dowell was sixth in the discus (92 feet, 2 inches) and eighth (33-1) in the

**Continued on Page 3B**

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## Dobie High School football camp set

Dobie varsity football head coach Kevin Berneathy and his staff are in the midst of a busy summer, and that includes hosting the 2018 Longhorn Youth Camp July 30 through Aug. 1 at the school.

The youth camp is open to those entering the third through eighth grades as of the 2018-2019 school year.

Participants will receive instruction in all phases of the game, including passing, receiving, running the football, blocking, tackling, pass defense, the kicking game, special teams responsibilities and more.

The camp also represents a great time for those in attendance to learn the "way of doing things" within the Dobie football program.

Cost of the camp is \$40 per student and includes a camp T-shirt, certificate of participation and possible camp awards.

Participants should wear proper attire, includ-

ing shoes (cleats if possible), shorts, T-shirt, etc. Water will be provided, but participants may also bring their own.

Parents must provide medical insurance for their children as the Pasadena ISD does not provide such coverage for events of this type.

For additional information, call Berneathy a 713-740-0370, ext. 04165.

Berneathy, set to enter his first season as the Dobie head coach in August, has already seen great participation in the school's voluntary strength and conditioning workouts.

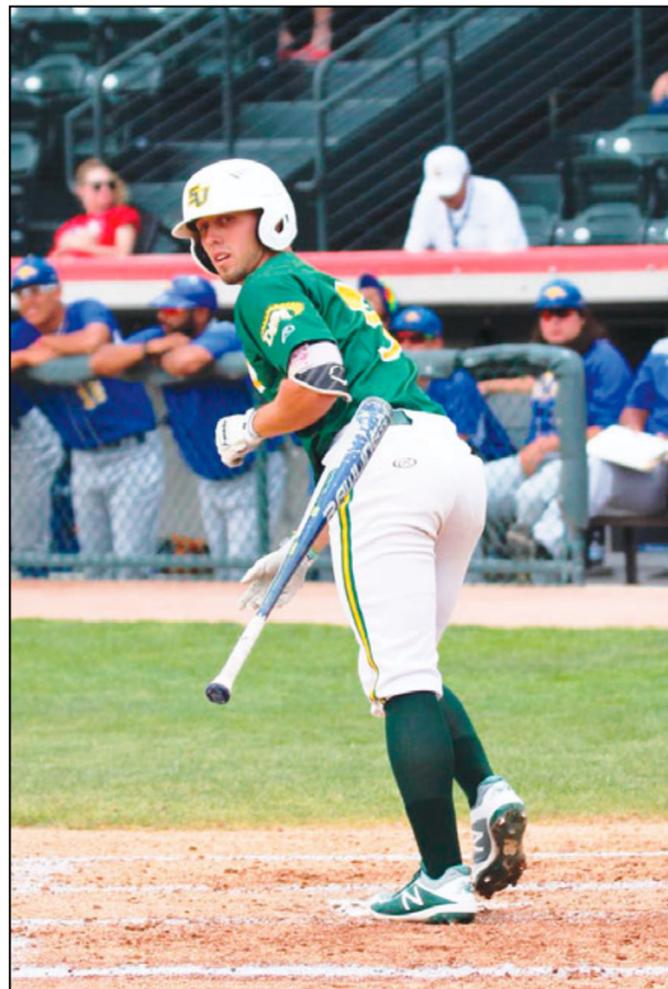
Students who have not yet attended may do so by joining either the 9 to 11 a.m. session or the 5 to 7 p.m. session each Monday through Thursday through July 23, with the exception of the week of July 2 through July 5.

There is no cost to attend the sessions, and both intermediate and high-school boys and girls are invited to attend.

## Astros' Julks gets promoted

At right, Houston Astros' minor league player Corey Julks (left), a Clear Brook High School graduate, has joined the Astros' Buies Creek Class A Advanced team after earning a promotion following a strong season at Class A Quad Cities. Julks, a three-year starter at Clear Brook and an eighth-round draft pick of the Astros in 2017, led Quad Cities in runs scored with 40 and in stolen bases with 14, having collected 60 hits in 64 games. He helped the River Bandits secure the first-half championship in their league before the promotion. At Buies Creek, Julks was off to a fast start, smacking three hits in eight at bats and stealing a bag. He also had a nice visit from his father, Daren Julks (right) and Daren's wife, Tracy Julks.

Submitted photo



San Jacinto College second baseman Trent Franson is a 2015 Lutheran South Academy graduate who helped the Pioneers with a state title during his senior year. He signed out of high school with Texas Christian University and played his sophomore season at San Jacinto. Franson has now signed to play at Houston Baptist University beginning this fall.

## San Jac's Cantleberry, Soularie earn All-America honors

Continued from Page 1B

Born in Indiana, Cantleberry burst onto the scene at San Jacinto College as a freshman in 2017, going 11-1 with a 1.73 earned run average to

earn the honorable mention All-America status.

This season, Cantleberry kept his career rolling with a 12-3 mark to go with a 3.32 earned run average.

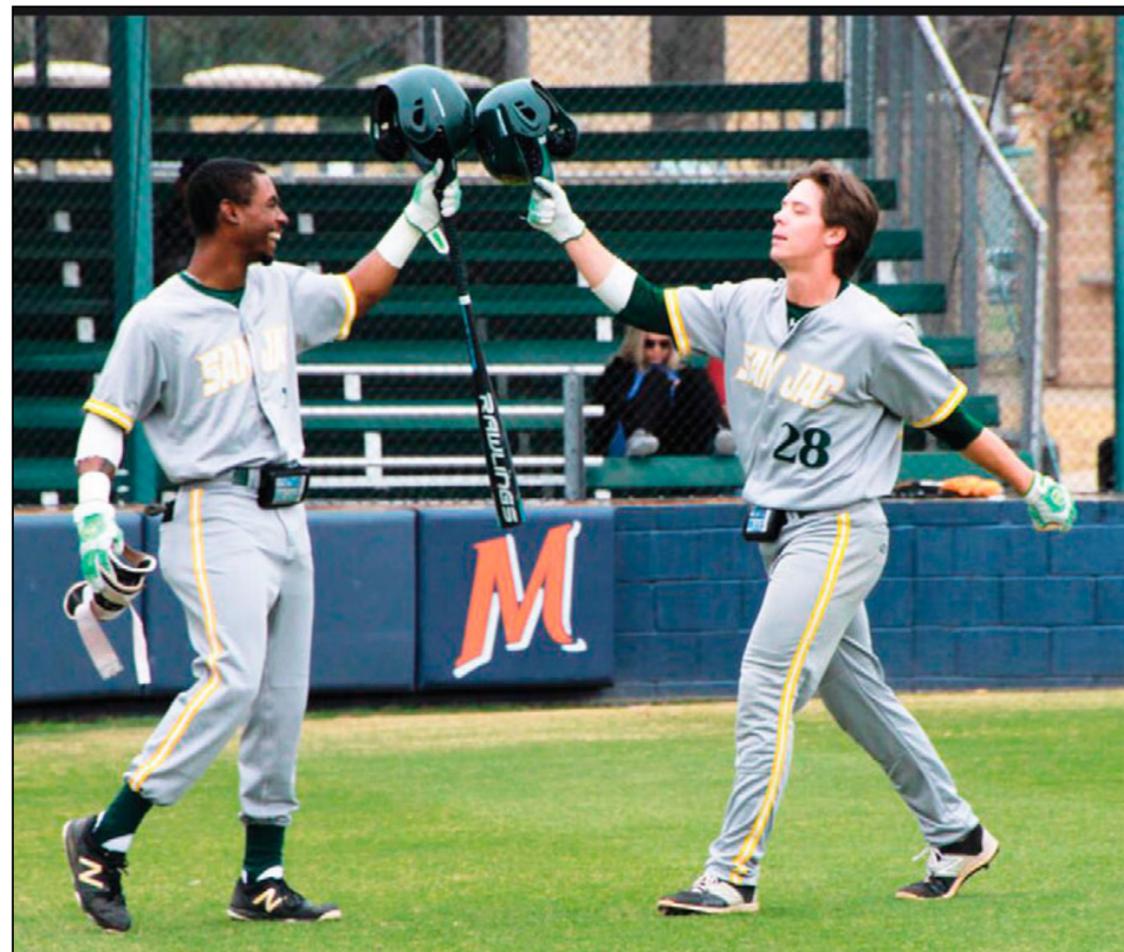
Undrafted by MLB teams in the recent June amateur draft, Cantleberry is set to continue his education and playing career at the University of Missouri beginning this fall.

Two San Jac teammates Jacob Matheny and Trey Dillard are currently set to join Cantleberry at Missouri.

Dillard, however, was selected in the 16th round

by the Los Angeles Dodgers and could choose to sign professionally at some point this summer. He was phenomenal in relief duty for SJC on the mound.

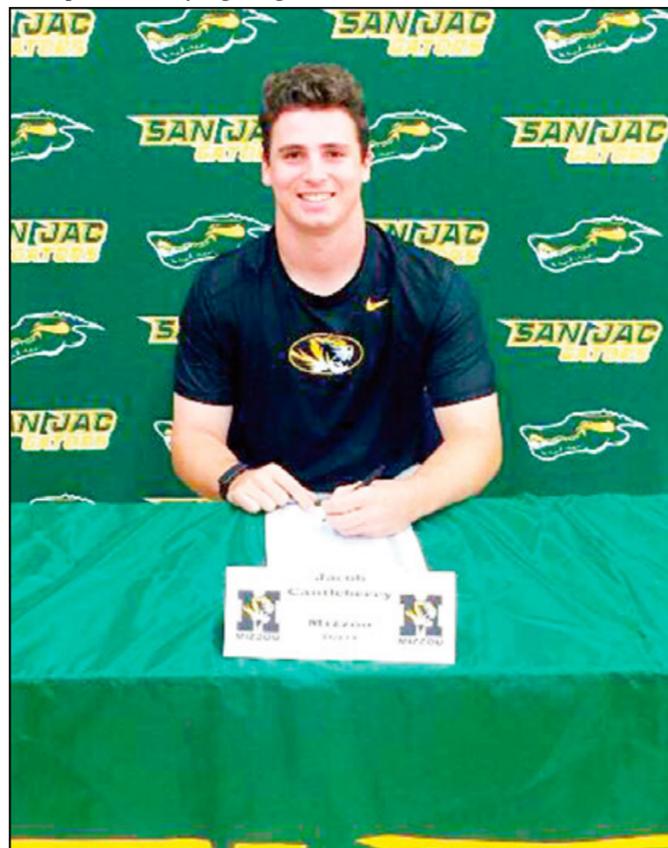
Matheny, son of St. Louis Cardinals manager Mike Matheny, is a sophomore catcher who hit .333 this season with 13 doubles, six homers and 31 runs batted in.



At left, San Jacinto College outfielder Alerick Soularie (left) congratulates teammate Nick Neville (28) after Neville homered earlier this season. At the end of the 2018 campaign, Soularie was named a National Junior College Athletic Association third team All-America selection. Picked by the St. Louis Cardinals in the 29th round of the amateur draft earlier this month, Soularie has also signed to attend the University of Tennessee. He could one day oppose Neville in Southeastern Conference as Neville has signed with South Carolina University.

At right, San Jacinto College right-hander Jacob Cantleberry is a two-time NJCAA honorable mention selection and has signed to attend the University of Missouri. In two seasons at SJC, Cantleberry was a combined 23-4.

Courtesy photos



## San Jac baseball players sign at 4-year programs

Seven San Jacinto College baseball players were selected in the MLB First-Year Amateur Player Draft, and four of those drafted have also signed letters of intent to play collegiately at four-year institutions beginning this fall. One player, Mike Pascoe, has signed to play professionally with the Toronto Blue Jays.

**Jacob Cantleberry, Jacob Matheny and Trey Dillard – University of Missouri**

**Trent Franson – Houston Baptist University**

**Aaron George – Louisiana State University**

**Matt Goodheart – University of Arkansas**

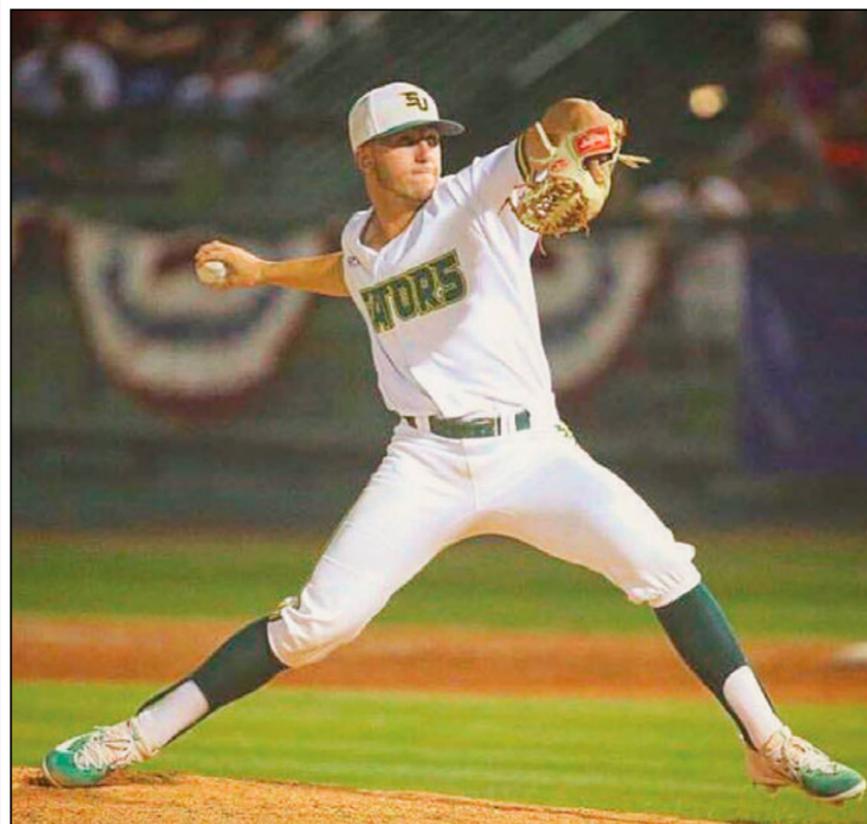
**Herbert Iser and Andres Sosa – Dallas Baptist University**

**Sergio Macias and Mario Moralez – Faulkner University**

**Reid Morgan and Nick Neville – University of South Carolina**

**Devon Roedahl – University of Houston**

## SJC's Pascoe signs with Toronto



The Toronto Blue Jays have announced the signing of San Jacinto College right-handed pitcher Mike Pascoe. The Arlington, N.Y., native tossed 27 innings over two seasons for the Gators, helping the team to back-to-back JUCO World Series appear-

ances. In 2018, he fanned 27 hitters in 15 relief innings before being chosen in the 24th round by the Blue Jays in the First-Year Amateur Player Draft. He reportedly received a \$100,000 signing bonus.

Courtesy photo

# Summer sports camps, clinics, misc.

## Thompson sets summer camp series

The Thompson Intermediate coaching staff has scheduled a variety of camps and fitness activities aimed at keeping first-year and returning Lion athletes active this summer. Parents must provide medical insurance coverage as the Pasadena ISD does not do so for these types of events.

**Soccer Camp** – The Lions' July 9-12 soccer camp for boys and girls will include training in all phases of the game, including offensive and defensive alignments, conditioning, goal-keeping, etc. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

**Basketball Camp** – The Lions' July 16-19 basketball camp for boys and girls will include training in all phases of the game, including offensive and defensive alignments, conditioning, passing, dribbling, rebounding, shooting, etc. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

**Volleyball Camp** – The Lady Lions' July 31-Aug. 3 volleyball camp for girls will include training in all phases of the game, including offensive and defensive alignments, conditioning, passing, hitting, serving, blocking, etc. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

**Strength/Conditioning Camp** – The Lions' July 23-26 strength and conditioning camp for boys and girls will include strength training, agility drills, tire work, stair climbing, ladder work, weight training, conditioning and more. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

**Football Camp** – The Lions' July 30-Aug. 2 football camp will include strength training as well as drills in all phases of the game, including passing, receiving, ball carrying, tackling, defensive secondary work and more. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

**Aug. 10** – All football players, including incoming seventh-grade students, will pick up their football practice gear and pay a one-time \$65 participation fee. All volleyball players, including incoming seventh-grade students, will pick up their practice gear and pay a one-time \$45 participation fee. Eighth-grade pickup time is 10 a.m. to noon, with seventh-grade pickup time to follow from 1 to 3 p.m.

## Dobie youth boys' basketball camp

Dobie varsity boys' basketball coach Kevin Cross and his staff will host the Longhorns' annual basketball camp for incoming fifth- through ninth-graders as of the 2018-2019 school year. The camp will be held July 9-12, at Dobie High School. Enrollment fee is \$50 and includes a camp T-shirt. The preferred registration web address is at <http://pasadenaisd.revttrak.net>. Families are also required to provide participants' medical insurance as the Pasadena ISD does not provide such coverage for these types of events.

## JFD High School volleyball camps

Dobie varsity volleyball head coach Dawn Sexton and her staff will host the Lady Longhorns' 2018 volleyball camps for incoming fifth- through 12th-graders as of the 2018-2019 school year. Fifth- and sixth-grade students are invited to attend July 17-19, from 9 to 11 a.m. Cost is \$40 per student, cash only. Seventh- and eighth-grade students are invited to attend July 17-19, from noon to 3 p.m. Cost is \$45, cash only. Sexton will then host 10th-through 12th-grade students July 24-26, from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$45, cash only. Incoming freshmen will attend from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$40, cash only. Families are also required to provide participants' medical insurance as the Pasadena ISD does not provide such coverage for these types of events.

## Pierce, Texas eliminated at College World Series

Former Dobie varsity baseball head coach David Pierce got the University of Texas program to the NCAA College World Series in just his second season, but the Longhorns could not capitalize.

The Longhorns first lost to Arkansas and then were eliminated by Florida, going winless in Pierce's first appearance at the CWS as a head coach. As for his time at Dobie, Pierce led JFD from 1996-2001, leading the program to three regional final four appearances. He later was an assistant at Rice University, winning a College World Series title with the Owls in 2003. Pierce was then the head coach at both Sam Houston State and Tulane before getting the Texas job in June of 2016.

## Arnett closes career at St. Mary's University

Dobie High School graduate Ben Arnett has finished his collegiate golf career after helping the St. Mary's University Hilltoppers to the NCAA Championships in his final season. Arnett fired a final-round 71 to finish in a tie for 44th place as the Hilltoppers wound up 11th as a team. At Dobie, Arnett was a three-time regional tournament performer and owns the school record for round-by-round scoring at 72.75.

# 21 Rising Stars athletes make regionals

Continued from Page 1B shot put. Devin Caballero, meanwhile, truly went the distance to ensure his spot at regionals in three different events.

His best finish at the Gulf Championships came in the 3,000-meter run, where his time of 10 minutes, 19.10 seconds placed him 10th overall.

Caballero was also 10th overall in a pair of distance runs.

He finished the 800-meter run at 2:13.03, and went out and posted a time of 4:36.54 for 10th in the 1,500-meter run.

Christian Ross, who has for years been one of the top racewalkers in the AAU national ranks, was the lone competitor at the Gulf championships.

His time of 19:45.04 in the 3,000-meter racewalk set him up for a trip to regionals. From there, he hopes to be headed back to nationals.

Valeria Salinas is another Rising Stars athlete

## AAU Region 17 National Qualifier

June 27-30

Challenger Columbia Stadium  
Webster, Texas

who will have the chance to compete in three different events at regionals.

She went a best of 13-0 in the long jump for eighth place, and Salinas also qualified for the 100- and 200-meter dashes.

Salinas, 17, clocked in at 13.46 in the 100-meter dash for 13th place and ran the 200-meter distance in a time of 27.78 for 16th place.

The Stars' Cameron Devereaux and Justin Vega are also headed to regionals in three events in the 17-18-year-old division.

In the 800-meter

run, Devereaux placed sixth overall in a time of 2:07.50, and his time of 4:33.34 gave him seventh place in the 1,500-meter run. Devereux will also take part in the turbo javelin at regionals.

As for Vega, his time of 2:09.01 placed him seventh in the 800-meter run, and his clocking of 4:34.72 at the 1,500-meter distance placed him ninth for a regional berth.

Like Devereaux, Vega will also compete in the turbo javelin.

Tyler Garcia, 17, is set to represent the Rising

Stars at regionals. He will be part of the field in the 800-meter run (ninth at 2:10.63) and the 400-meter hurdles, where his time of 3:34.00 was 11th-best.

Also from the 17-18-year-old division, the Stars' Deon Brown was sixth in the shot put (44-3) and ninth in the discus (116-10), making regionals in both events.

Christal Dickson, taking part in the 17-18-year-old division, was fifth in the triple jump with an effort of 27-10 1/2 to make regionals.

Also, Alena Holt qualified for the javelin event as well as the 800-meter run, where her time of 3:13.92 placed her 13th overall.

Ryan Reed, 9, placed second with a throw of 53-2 in the turbo javelin to advance to regionals, and he also qualified in the long jump.

Devin Livingston, also 9, threw the turbo javelin 40-2 for sixth place, and also reached regionals in

the 1,500-meter run.

Trevor Doswell of the Stars placed second in the long jump at 10-8 1/2, and also qualified for regionals in the turbo javelin with a throw of 64-2 in the 10-year-old division.

Noah Caballero, 11, was second in the turbo javelin with a great throw of 77-8, and he also completed the 800-meter run in a 14th-best time of 2:53.14.

Izabel Fernandez, 13, was the Gulf championships winner in the 3,000-meter racewalk in a time of 22:33.76 and will now try her luck at regionals.

Fernandez will also be involved in the turbo javelin competition.

In addition, Rising Stars Track Club members Joss Ross, Briana Haywood, Janelle Mooney and Michael Hidalgo Ramirez will also take part in the turbo javelin event at the regional event, with national hopes in mind.

## SBHLL all-star tournament weather updates – Texas District 15

<b>SBHLL 10s vs. Pearland/OFA</b>	<b>SBHLL 11s vs. Friendswood</b>	<b>SBHLL 12s vs. East End</b>	<b>Jr., Sr. tourneys to begin June 21</b>
Thursday, June 21 6 p.m., Friendswood L.L.	After press time June 20 *If field playable	Thursday, June 21 6 p.m., Pearland L.L.	*If fields playable

For tourney details, including bracket updates, visit [www.eteamz.com/td15](http://www.eteamz.com/td15).

## SBAST Sharks name Swimmers/Week

SBAST Sharks Swimmers/Week  
Exceptional Attitude/Attendance



Age 13 to 18: Savannah Canales – Riley Mercer



Age 8-under: Austin McGrady – Jordan Cobb

# CALENDAR

### THURSDAY, JUNE 21

**AA Meeting** – "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for more information, or drop in.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** – 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at [jpochsner@aol.com](mailto:jpochsner@aol.com) for details.

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** – Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

**Texas German Society, South Belt (SE) Chapter** – A social group focused on the culture, music, heritage and language of Texas German immigrants. Meets the third Thursday, monthly, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall of Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Visitors welcome. Email [OpaGivesHugs@gmail.com](mailto:OpaGivesHugs@gmail.com) for details.

**Harris County Master Gardeners** – presents *Propagation And Seed Saving* Thursday, June 21, at 6:30 p.m. in the Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane. This is a free Harris County Master Gardener event. For details, visit <https://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/pubGreenThumb.aspx> or call 713-274-0950.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** – Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.

**The Bay Area Writers' League** – Meets the first and third Thursdays monthly to improve writing skills. Barnes and Noble, 1029 W. Bay Area Blvd., 7:30 p.m.

Newcomers welcome.

### FRIDAY, JUNE 22

**AA Meeting** – "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for more information, or drop in.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** – Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at [jpochsner@aol.com](mailto:jpochsner@aol.com) for details.

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** – West End Group, noon, Shepherd of the Heart United Methodist Church, 12005 County Rd. 39, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** – Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. Call 713-856-1611.

**Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** – meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** – "Breakfast with Bill", Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** – Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 23

**Alcoholics Anonymous** – "Breakfast with Bill", Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** – Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.

**StartSchoolLater.net (SSL) Houston Chapter** - informational meeting about the link of teen sleep deprivation to depression and low academic performance. The public is welcome, 11 a.m., on the fourth Saturday at the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-229-1409. RSVP is requested for meeting attendance.

**Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English)** – For women affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** – Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at [jpochsner@aol.com](mailto:jpochsner@aol.com) for details.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** – meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 24**

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** – Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at [jpochsner@aol.com](mailto:jpochsner@aol.com) for details.

**Grief Support Group** – For adults who have lost a loved one. Meets Sundays, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas, 2 to 3:15 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. For details, call 281-487-8787.

**Celebrate Recovery** – A faith-based 12-Step Program, Sundays, 5:30 p.m., in the Chapel at Life Church, 9900

Almeda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for details or to RSVP for child care.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** – Vigilance Group of NA meets Sundays, 7 p.m., 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** – meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.

**MONDAY, JUNE 25**

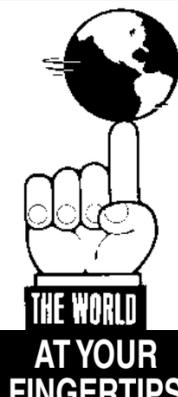
**Al-Anon Deer Park** – Mondays, 10 – 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or drop in.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** – Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at [jpochsner@aol.com](mailto:jpochsner@aol.com) for details.

**Overeaters Anonymous Deer Park** – 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or drop in.

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** – Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

**Houston Area Parkinson Society** – Free exercise and speech therapy for adults with Parkinson's, 3:15 – 4:45 p.m., Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit [www.hapsonline.org](http://www.hapsonline.org) for details.



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SOUTHBELT - Data-Systems - Hard Drive Data Recovery - Linux Installation. 10909 Sabo, Suite 120, 281-481-0909. E-mail: sds@walkerlaw.com

**FOUND PET**  
FOUND: Black female kitten approximately 7 months old near Blackhawk / Sageroyal. Please call 713-818-8628 6-21

**GARAGE SALE**  
11618 CORKWOOD DR Sat. only, June 23, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. 1 day only. Baby items, kitchen appliances, dog crates, dishes, knickknacks, limited clothing. 6-21

**HELP WANTED**  
EXPERIENCED BAR manager, bartenders,

cocktail waitresses needed. Call 832-875-5022 6-28

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
Notice of Sale. July 23, 2018. Steve's Automotive Services, 1111 Katyland Dr, Katy, TX 77493, 281-391-3010. 1990 Ford Bronco 1FMEU15H1LLA6682. 6-21

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
FOREST PARK EAST CEMETERY: Three spaces, choice location Section 206, lot 89, spaces 7, 8, 9. Call 281-487-7932. TF

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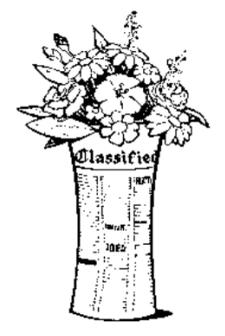
We are seeking local volunteers to join our active Volunteer Fire and EMS Department. If you are over 18 and can pass a background check and driving record check, we encourage you to come join us any Thursday evening at 7PM at our #1 Fire Station at 10510 Scarsdale Blvd. If you have no, or very limited training, we will provide all the training and protective gear upon acceptance. If you have any previous fire or EMS training, (Fire Department, Forest Service, Military, etc), we can accept those training hours also. You can visit our website: [www.southeastvfd.com](http://www.southeastvfd.com) to learn more, download an application package and see some of the activities that we participate in yearly. Please come to one of our meetings to meet your fellow volunteers and join us in this very important and worthwhile activity. Become a valued and needed part of our growing community where Neighbors Help Neighbors! Your community needs you!

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## CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B  
**MONDAY, JUNE 25**  
6-8 p.m.  
**CrossRoads UMC** - Mercy Hearts meets on the second and fourth Mondays, 6 to 8 p.m., at CrossRoads UMC located at 10030 Scarsdale. The focus of the new Mercy Hearts is support for families of inmates and ex-offenders. The program will provide a complimentary meal, group Bible study and discussion. Child care is provided. This is a confidential ministry and information will be treated accordingly. For more information, contact C. Talbot at 281-245-7072 or email Chucktal@msn.com.

6 p.m.  
**Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Come, improve crossword playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for details. No meetings on holidays.

6 p.m.  
**Pearland Overeaters Anonymous HOW Meeting** - Mondays at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2535 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland. Enter door next to recycling bins. For more information, call 713-865-3668 or visit the website [www.oahouston.org](http://www.oahouston.org).

7 p.m.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.

7:30 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Saint Luke's Group, 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the Education Bldg., 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. For details, call Russell at 832-483-6715.

7:30 p.m.  
**Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - Israeli Folk Dancing on Monday, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., 16020 El Camino Real, 77062. \$4/session or \$35/10 sessions for CSH members and \$5/session or \$45/10 sessions for nonmembers. Everyone is welcome. For information, contact 281-488-5861 or [csh@shaarhashalom.org](mailto:csh@shaarhashalom.org).

1:30 p.m.  
**TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #1530 meets at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd., 1:30 p.m. For information, contact Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713. 2 p.m.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class** - Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For more information or for a class schedule, contact Dr. Glandorf at [dr.glandorf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dr.glandorf@sbcglobal.net) or call 281-488-6318. 7 p.m.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.  
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27**  
7 a.m.

**AAA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

9:30 a.m.  
**Young at Heart Senior Club** - Meets the second and fourth week monthly (Nov./Dec. meet second week only) at Covenant United Methodist Church, 7900 Fuqua. Lots of activities, trips, etc. are planned. Call Jan Okumura at 832-298-9480 for more information.

10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at [jpochnsner@aol.com](mailto:jpochnsner@aol.com) for details.

Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For more information, call 713-856-1611.

1 - 3:30 p.m.  
**Hometown Heroes Park** - has free Hump Day Dance to practice ballroom dance (not formal lessons) 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 1001 E. League City Pkwy. League City nonresidents must purchase activity card (see Tuesday 12:30 p.m. dance for details). Help is available to assist learning dance moves. For more information, call Neva Schroder at 417-838-2204. 7 p.m.

**Parker Williams Library** - presents Dobie theatre students in a storytelling concert on Wednesday, June 27, at 7 p.m. Meet at the library as the students read "Lion and the Mouse," "The Dog and the Bone" and "Peter and the Star Catcher" (the story of Peter Pan). There will be simple audience participation vocal warm-ups between each scene that are designed to be enjoyable for kids.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611. 7 p.m.

**Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention** - Call 281-286-2525 (24-hour crisis hotline) for confidential domestic violence/sexual abuse support group for women. Visit [www.bayareaturningpoint.org](http://www.bayareaturningpoint.org) for information. 8 p.m.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meeting at CrossRoads UMC, located at 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., For information, call 281-484-9243.

# 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Entry Form

## "Honoring South Belt's Harvey Heros"

A parade will be held in conjunction with the July 4th Spectacular. Parade lineup will be at 9 a.m. at Beverly Hills Intermediate, 11111 Beamer. The parade will begin at Beverly Hills Intermediate at 10 a.m. and will continue to San Jacinto College on Beamer Road. Businesses and individuals are encouraged to build floats and participate in the parade.

**NO WATER BALLOONS, WATER GUNS, ETC.**

For more information, call Marie Flickinger at 281-481-5656. All entries must be received by July 2.

Name of entry \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Organization or Business \_\_\_\_\_  
Person to Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Truck (2 axle)     Car     Float     Truck (3 axle)     Other

*Due to the length of this parade, we request participants do not attempt to walk.*

All entries for community and nonprofit groups are free of charge—unless those participants wish to be eligible for a trophy in the judging contest. These contest entries require a \$25 entry fee. **ABSOLUTELY NO REFUNDS.**

All entries for business require a \$50 entry fee.  
 Commercial float: \$50  
 Noncommercial for trophy: \$25  
 Noncommercial, not competing: no charge

\* Each entrant is liable for the entry & participants involved with their entry. Adult supervision is a must!

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this entry form & submit, email or drop off at South Belt-Ellington Leader office (11555 Beamer) before July 2nd.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 26**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

9:30 a.m.  
**Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For more information, call the museum at 713-472-0565.

10 a.m.  
**American Begonia Society** - Houston Satellite meets on the fourth Tuesday, Clear Lake Park, 5001 NASA Pkwy. (on the lake side), Seabrook. For information, call Joe at 281-481-2458.

**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at [jpochnsner@aol.com](mailto:jpochnsner@aol.com) for details. 1 - 2 p.m.

**Free dance lessons** - taught by Lewis and Betty Whistler (35 years experience teaching dance) at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E League City Parkway, on Tuesdays from 1 to 2 p.m. Bringing a partner is helpful but is not required. All ages are welcome. Each month, features a different focus. In July, basic Cha-Cha lessons are taught. For questions about this class or other lessons they teach, call Betty at 832-517-5833. For questions about League City's activity card requirements, call the park office at 281-554-1180. League City Parks Dept. requires an activity card for all participation of activities. Seniors (age 55 and older) get a free "full activity card." Nonresident seniors pay \$25 a year for this full activity card. If under age 55, there is a "special limited to ballroom activity card" (residents pay \$25/ year, nonresidents pay \$37.50) to enjoy "daytime" ballroom activities. Noon

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

**Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets Tuesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch is \$15. Variety of interesting speakers. For information, call 281-900-7257 or visit the website [nalex@texascitizensbank.com](http://nalex@texascitizensbank.com).

**THURSDAY, JUNE 28**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

10 a.m.  
**Clear Lake Bridge Club** - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at [jpochnsner@aol.com](mailto:jpochnsner@aol.com) for details.

Noon  
**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611. 6:30 p.m.

**Kirkwood Civic Association** meets at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd. on the last Thursday of the month. For more information, call Ericka McCrutchon at 281-989-9990. 7 p.m.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church in the youth building. For details, call 713-856-1611.

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# Hartman excited to take over JFD girls' hoops

Continued from Page 1B

"If they'll have me, I hope to stay for a very long time."

In taking over at Dobie, Hartman said she will continue to utilize some of the lessons in her transition from player to coach. She was once one of the best of the best while at Bellaire.

When she reached Oklahoma University, she realized that special basketball came from all directions. Hartman was no longer the best of the best, but she was okay with that.

"For me it has always been about what is best for the team," Hartman said. "Even at Bellaire, it was always about the team. Being at Oklahoma matured me as a person and as an athlete. As a teammate, you do whatever is needed with the whole team in mind."

"It was that way at Oklahoma. I remember taking a walk-on player and guiding her along in 2010, and coach (Sherri) Coale told me then she knew I would be a coach."

Now as Dobie's head coach, she's ready to carve out a new chapter in her career. While Hartman has yet to meet any of Dobie's returnees, she is relying heavily on assistants Ashley Moore and Mo Hickman for intel, if one will.

"Ashley, as a Dobie graduate herself, has great energy and enthusiasm for the program," Hartman said. "She will be very important to me as I begin to get my feet on the ground."

"With Mo Hickman, you're talking about someone who is a tremendous mentor and someone who has coached just about every sport there is. I really hope to rely on coach Hickman's experience and knowledge as we get the program going toward next season."

Hartman hopes to begin open gymnasium workouts in July. Once off-season workouts begin, Hartman is sure of several things.

"We will always have a plan and be prepared for our opponent," she said. "We'll have a practice plan every day, and we will be organized. And we will set high standards."

I'm very aware that programs like Atascocita and Summer Creek – which have had regional tournament success in the past – are coming into our district.

"I'm aware of how competitive it is going to be. But at Dobie, we are going to fight every night and work to be at our best. I also like to use what I call 'special situation' workouts. That means we need to be ready for end-of-game situations or last-second-before-the-half situations. We need to be prepared for times when we don't have a timeout and the clock is winding down. But it also means showing the opponent something they haven't seen before."

"We may not always come out on top, but we are going to be prepared. Obviously our first goal is

always to make the playoffs, but I don't want that to be all we think about."

"As we saw last year with a team like Summer Creek, they weren't just happy to make the playoffs, they kept pushing and made it to the Region III final. I want us to always think about going farther and farther."

Today, Hartman has no grip on the current makeup of the Dobie varsity roster. Two players, Breanna Smith and Alexis Osos, both presences in the past, will play collegiately elsewhere next season. Others, including each of the returnees, will be expected to step up.

"I'm certainly a play-

er's coach," Hartman said. "At the high school level, you work with what you have. In college, you can go recruit the best of the best, but here at the high school level, you work to develop the young local talent that comes through your doors each year."

"We will evaluate what we have and then address

what we might need from the (subvarsity) teams. We are behind in terms of preparation for next season.

"But while we may not be as good as we would like or as together as we would like in November or December, hopefully by January when district play starts, we will be ready."



Jasmine Hartman (45) grew to know of the Dobie girls' basketball program as a player at Bellaire before she graduated in 2008. She played in two NCAA Final Fours while at Oklahoma University and then spent three seasons at Liberty High School. Now, she will lead the JFD program. Photo by Ty Russell

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